The Middlebury Campus

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David Barreda

Several residents prepare to vote on local issues such as providing funds to repair sidewalks.

Voters approve town budget, expansion

By Megan Sowards
Staff Writer

Over 200 Middlebury residents gathered at Monday night's annual town meeting to adopt next year's $3.4 million budget and debate issues concerning town life. The majority of the debate centered around two main issues: the expansion of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church and long-awaited sidewalk repair.

Voters agreed to cede 30 feet of the village green to the church for an expansion project that will allow handicapped access improvements to be made to the 172 year old building. The cession is valid as long as the building remains a church.

However, some residents expressed concern that the construction would impede village green activities and that the addition's appearance would not be compatible with other buildings in town.

"We intend to make every effort to use the most minimal part of the grant," said church official John Thompson of the estimated four month construction project which will expand the church toward the railroad tracks.

Residents also questioned the $35,000 proposed for sidewalk improvements in the capital improvements section of the town's $3,433,316 budget. Improvements and construction projects such as sidewalk and road repair fall under this category.

Jane Miller, a resident of Seminary Street, called the condition of the sidewalks, "deplorable" and worried about a lawsuit that might result from someone tripping on a frost-heave.

Bill Hageman, head of the Middlebury road crew, agreed to compile a prioritized list of sidewalks to be repaired. However, Hageman must first complete sidewalk improvements to the new Court Street entrance to Middlebury Junior High School. $20,000 of the proposed budget is expected to be spent on these improvements.

"I invite everyone here to send a letter to the town concerning their favorite sidewalk," resident Bruce Burgess told his fellow citizens in typical town meeting informality.

Residents were encouraged to question any section of the budget outlined in the town's annual report and presented by the seven

(see Voters, page 2)

SGA finalizes proposal on EAC representation

By Matt Potenza
Staff Writer

Two weeks ago at the SGA meeting, Religion Professor Robert Schine, Chair of the Faculty Council, explained to the General Assembly the faculty's rational in combining the Education Council with the Teaching Resources Committee. The merger, which was formalized by faculty vote the following afternoon, resulted in the new Education Affairs Committee. The prospect of the absence of student vote on the EAC prompted an SGA uproar and answering these concerns; Schine responded that while students held voting rights on the former Ed. Council, it was a fruitless vote since the Ed. Council held no real power. The old council "never got its fingers dirty" in the real issues, Schine said, and every faculty member feared getting assigned to the frustrating and helpless council.

The original system for students which Schine proposed to the SGA called for a student committee to parallel the EAC. Graham Balch '97 objected to the original proposal as "throwing the students a bone." His comments set off an intense discussion of possible alternatives.

The SGA requested time to formulate a proposal to solve the problem of student representation to the EAC and the Sunday before last appointed Jennifer Gelb '97 and Lauren Appel '97 to join SGA President Karen Lewis '97 and Vice President Laura Coogan '97 in discussions with representatives of the Faculty Council.

At the latest meeting last Sunday, Schine was again in attendance when Gelb and Appel presented the group's proposed solution. Their amendment to the EAC system included provisions for a faculty member of the students' choice to act as a go-between for the faculty EAC and the student EAC (SEAC). Four students elected by the SGA would comprise the SEAC and carry the privilege of speaking before the full faculty at faculty meetings. Additionally, the SEAC would invite that faculty member to meet with the SEAC at least once a month to discuss matters of general educational policy.

Regarding the new representation arrangement, Schine said that if last time he was throwing the students a bone, this time he was "offering the students a cookie." He proceeded to hand Balch a pack of chocolate chip cookies, which were then passed around the room.

Balch said in response, "I do not want to give the impression that I want to keep the old committee. I am just concerned about representing

(see SGA, page 5)

College works to solve lingering MiddCard problems

By Mike Wiser
Staff Writer

The new MiddCards, with both a magnetic strip and a smart chip, were plagued with card failures during their original release, but since then have become an accepted part of Middlebury life. The college has temporarily delayed expanding the use of the cards, until their reliability is proven.

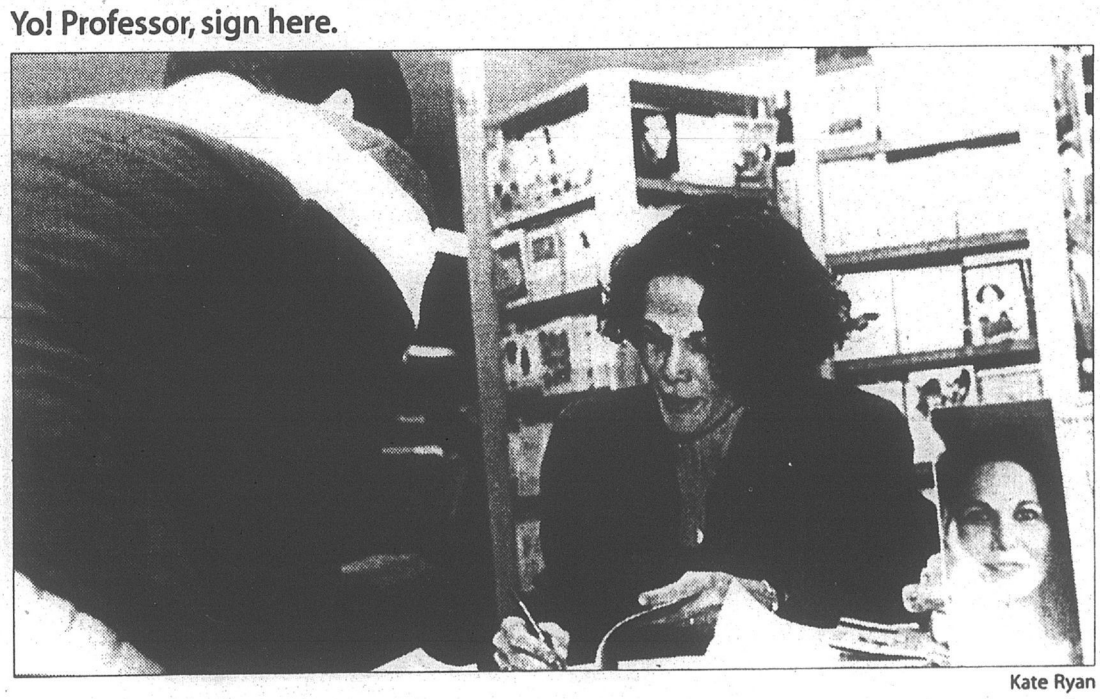
At the beginning of the year there was also a large number of card failures; some students went through up to six different cards. "We had about a 50 per cent failure rate on these cards. Obviously that didn't make us feel happy," Tom Corbin, assistant treasurer of the college, said. "I think we're all surprised at the number of cards that have failed. ... it was nothing that we expected," said acting Director of Security Tedi Jennings. Apparently, when the first batch of cards (the ones with the white signature strip) were manufactured in France, one of the machines at the plant was cutting the chips incorrectly. Since there were two assembly lines, half of the cards came out okay and the other half were assembled with flawed chips. The MiddCard supplier, which paid for the replacement cards, sent a second batch of cards to the college. While the second batch of cards were more reliable, there was still an 18 per cent failure rate due to a trace amount of glue covering the cards.

The school also had a problem with putting credit back on the card when students returned their books to the college store. This was eventually resolved by changing the programming of the system.

The school is currently testing a third batch of cards on 200 students who had multiple card failures in the past. The new cards should let the chip float on the card and resist cracking. The college's card supplier gave $25 to each student for a test that will track the serial numbers on the latest cards issued and determine their failure rate. There have been a few failures in the batch which was issued on February 18 and 19. The

(see MiddCard, page 3)

Yo! Professor, sign here.



Kate Ryan

Professor Julia Alvarez *recently signed copies of her new book "Yo" in the college bookstore. For a review of her book, turn to page 16.*

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The Campus is printed on recycled paper. It is also recyclable.

College Shorts

By Aditya Raval
News Editor

College newspaper drops award-winning cartoonist

The Daily Universe, the student newspaper at Brigham Young University (BYU) has banished the work of Steve Benson, a Pulitzer Prize winning cartoonist and a BYU alumnus. After 15 years during which Benson's work appeared, the newspaper decided to stop running Benson's cartoons because of his extensive satire of issues such as the recent sexual assault allegation in the Army, which *The Daily Universe* thought might offend readers.

Benson countered that the decision really involves his public criticisms towards the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints which owns BYU. Benson argued that decision exposes "the increasingly oppressive atmosphere that one experiences at BYU in terms of diversity of thought and opinion." The newspaper's faculty adviser, John Gholdston, disagreed with Benson's statements.

Students reconstruct a slave cabin

Architecture students at Washington University have rebuilt a slave cabin that will be the main attraction in the Black World History Wax Museum in St. Louis.

Members of the campus chapter of the National Organization of Minority Architecture Students rebuilt the cabin which was originally a home to slaves in the 1830s. Colin Johnson, a leader of the group stated, "I knew it was worth preserving. Architecturally, nothing would be built like that today."

Disability suit dismissed against SUNY

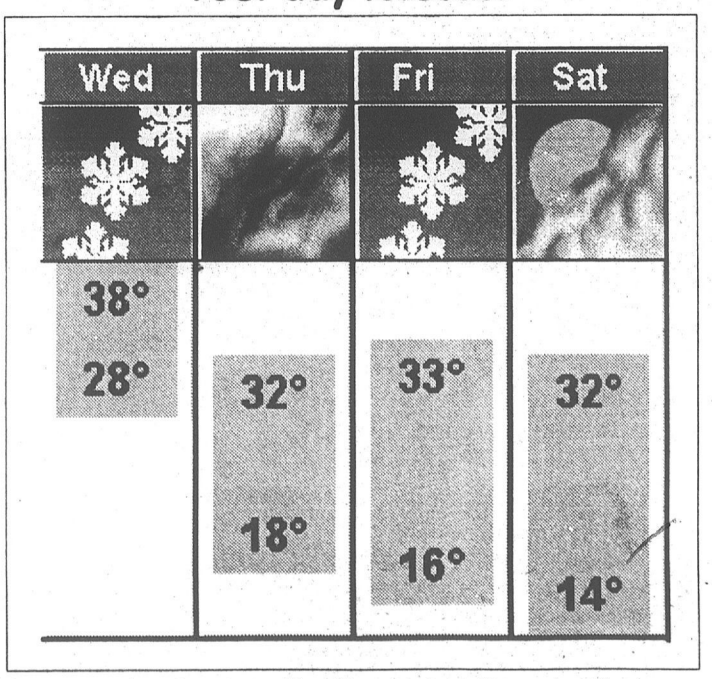
A federal judge has recently dismissed a suit filed by Steven L. Maczaczyj, a 38 year-old victim of agoraphobia, the fear of public places. Maczaczyj asserted that his phobia prevented him from attending a day-long orientation at Empire State College. The college told the Maczaczyj that he must participate in the orientation in order to be part of the program which offers courses that can be taken over e-mail.

Maczaczyj argued that the policy had violated his rights under the Americans With Disabilities Act. The judge disagreed, stating that the student's request to participate in the orientation via telephone would have required the college to make a central and basic change, not one that could be easily accomplished.

Source: *The Chronicle Of Higher Education*

Campus Weather

Four day forecast



Courtesy of Intellicast at http://www.intellicast.com

Environmental organizers seek input

Gwynn Guilford
News Assistant

Spurred by the proposal of an Environmental Center in the Draft Facilities Plan, the Middlebury Environmental Council hosted a workshop last Saturday.

The Environmental Center Charrette was designed to gather input from students, faculty, parents and other members of the community as well as present potential ideas for the construction and purpose of the center. The workshop, which included discussions, presentations and dinner, was attended by over 50 people.

The charrette, organized by Environmental coordinator Jennifer Hazen and the members of the Environmental Center Committee, began with an overview of the Draft Facilities Plan process and a history of the committee itself. Committee member Hannah Lewis '97, who introduced the charrette, explained, "The purpose of this is for [the Environmental Center Committee] to get as much input from people as possible." She defined the basic goals in creating a sustainably-built center: to have a durable structure which used recycled materials in its construction and relied on passive solar energy for power.

Hazen introduced the planning process of the Facilities Plan, explaining the potential changes in the campus that will take place as a result. She emphasized the importance of having an Environmental Center in order to strengthen both the environmental program and the college as a whole.

Covering all aspects of the environmental situation at Middlebury, Jeff Banks '97 outlined the history of Weybridge House, which was formed in the fall of 1991, and noted it is too limited in its space to adequately meet the goals of those living there and those connected with the house. According to Banks, not only is the storage space for home-grown food too small, but the size of the house cannot accommodate the lectures that the house frequently sponsors. "A house should be as much of a learning experience as the people who live in it," he said. Banks added, "The new Environmental Center would replace Weybridge as more than a house, but a classroom, too, and bring environmental studies into the forefront."

Following these explanatory addresses, the participants of the workshop formed discussion groups with those at their tables to brainstorm ideas regarding the purpose of the Environmental Center.

Some of the recurring themes of the separate discussions were the importance of consolidating the environmental studies department by including space for facilities, classrooms, and faculty offices, creating a "pilot center" for new environmental technology, and involving more of the college in the community.

Another issue raised was the potential isolation of the new center, which would ideally be located near Harris Farmhouse. Said committee member Corinna Luyken '00 , "Even if it is closer [to the rest of the campus] than Weybridge House, because it is over the hill and out of sight, it will seem isolated." One group even suggested renovating the science center, which may be unused after the college constructs Bicentennial Hall. However, as Kate Shick `00 pointed out, "Weybridge is totally separate from the campus ... the way I see it, the Environmental Center will integrate environmental [issues] with the rest of the campus."

Additionally, participants emphasized the value of using the center as an informational and technological resource for the entire college. Some participants advocated environmental outreach programs that would be made available to Middlebury students through the Environmental Center. Others suggested that the center's programs could accommodate summer schools, environment-oriented work/study programs, and even, as one group suggested, a Middlebury farm semester.

Following dinner, the workshop featured many speakers who addressed potential construction ideas, uses of land, and certain environmental technology that could be employed in the creation of the Environmental Center. The featured speakers included Ben Gleason, who built a house out of hay bales; Dianne Elliott Gayer, professor of architecture at the University of Vermont; and Betsy Garties who organized the organic farming program at Dartmouth College.

Pete Schneider '97 also spoke about the Senior Class Gift Trail and Pete Johnson '97 described his experience building a greenhouse, an addition the Environmental Center Committee hopes to include in the center. Each of the eight presentations informed participants about methods of construction and means of implementing environmental technology in the creation of the center. "Your approach [to building the center] should embrace everything [you] can think of," advised speaker David Rafael.

The committee plans to complete its proposal by late March. The turnout and the enthusiasm of the participants encouraged organizers. "There was a lot of energy there and I think people showed a lot of enthusiasm. I think the events flowed well together. No event lasted long enough for people to get bored and there was a good mix of information being given and people actually doing their own thinking," commented Lewis. At the end of the session, groups turned in their ideas in note and poster form for the committee to consider in completing their suggestions for a final blueprint. Said Hazen, "I feel like a lot has been accomplished, and that a lot of creative new stuff has been come up with for us to think about."

Voters approve town budget, expansion

(continued from page 1)

member selectboard. An oral vote based on simple majority of all voters in attendance unanimously approved the 1997-98 budget.

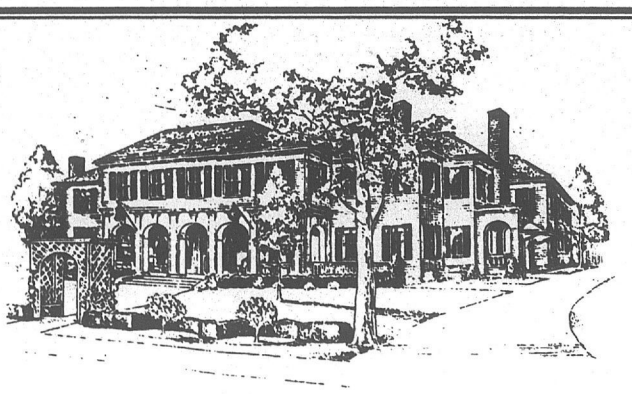
In the style of the pure and direct democracy envisioned by our nation's founders, any registered voter in the town of Middlebury could bring concerns to the attention of the board. The moderator recognized most of the residents wishing to speak on a first name basis.

Perhaps looking to preserve one of the last vestiges of Colonial America, Selectman Fred Copeland emphasized the need for community participation in Town Meeting Day. "Local control by voters is slipping away," said Copeland. "As this happens we see Vermont becoming like other states in the nation and Middlebury becoming like other towns in Vermont."

Formal parliamentary procedure or legal bylaws do not exist to regulate the proceedings. Instead, a moderator follows a list of articles contained in a warrant.

Tuesday, residents voted on a slate of town candidates and a property tax exemption for the American Legion building.

Across the state, meetings such as Middlebury's convene every year on the first Tuesday of March and are still a hallowed tradition of participatory democracy in much of New England.



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MiddCards face reliability concerns

(continued from page 1)

treasurer's office hopes that a low failure rate after thirty to forty-five days will indicate that the new cards are more reliable.

Once the school is confident about the reliability of the card, the new cards, with a color picture of a bronze panther, will be issued to all students and their use will be expanded. While merchants in town have expressed a desire to get card readers installed, the school is holding off until it is sure of reliability. "Until I can be sure that chip is going to hold up, I don't want to go downtown... I don't want a student to have forty dollars on a chip, go down and have dinner, go to pay for it and the chip doesn't work," stated Corbin. Additionally, once the cards are determined to be reliable, the college plans to place the card machines with cards that can be used by the general public in the college's copy machines and vending machines. While concerns for reliability have prevented card readers from being placed in town, larger problems have prevented the MiddCard from being used as an ATM card. The original plan was for the MiddCard to also work as an ATM card for the National Bank of Middlebury sometime during this academic year. However, the plan will probably be delayed until sometime this summer because the school hasn't found an ATM network provider that is willing to connect the college without providing the school with its own equipment.

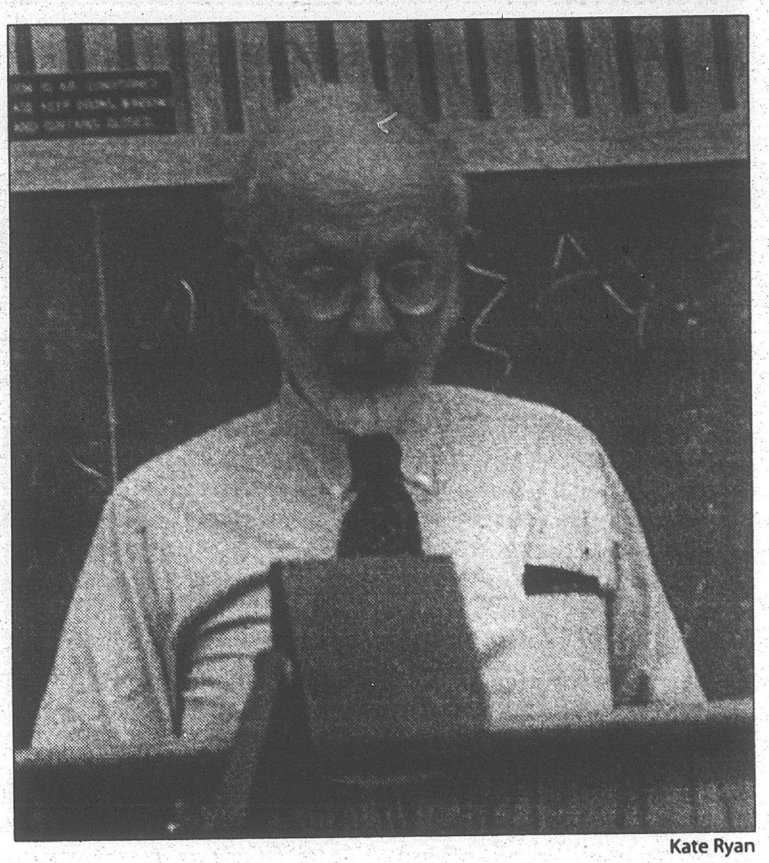
Eventually, the college plans to use the card for access to Voter and other buildings on campus. The school has delayed installing a card lock unit in Voter, again because of a reliability problem. According to Corbin, the administration will delay installing card locks on outside doors to dorms until the campus community demands it. The new locks could be wired to security so that the college could know when a door has been propped open.

Part of getting students to respect their cards is getting them to realize that with stored value on the card, it is the electronic equivalent of cash. Before the MiddCard was issued, Corbin asked campus organizations that used ID cards as a check system to reexamine their system. Both security and the field house used the ID cards as a deposit for equipment or keys. Because the cash value of a card could be accessed without a pin number, the college devised a system whereby cards would be placed in an envelope with a see-through window, sealed, and then signed over the seal by the student. The student would then be able to tell if the card had been removed from the envelope while he was gone. This effectively prevents the attendant from using a student's card, for example, to purchase a Coke during a break. Also, both security and the field house lock the cards away when there is not an attendant watching them. "I feel that everybody should be, if they are going to hold the cards, using the envelope system. And if they're not, students should think twice about leaving them," Corbin said. However, Dining Services currently keeps MiddCards belonging to students who want to eat in the television lounge in Proctor, without sealed and signed envelopes. When asked about the possible security concern, Cheryl Lacey, the dining services departmental assistant, said, "It's certainly something we can do, putting the card in an envelope and having the student sign it. That's definitely not a problem. I'm not sure it's something that we even considered."

According to Tedi Jennings, there have been at least two instances of students altering their date of birth on the card in order to appear over 21. The students lifted the lamination on the card and changed the last digit of their birth date in order to get alcohol. "Once you put it back, it just doesn't look the same," Jennings said.

For dining services, the MiddCard has had very little effect on having students enter the dining halls more quickly. "I think there's a misunderstanding about exactly what the card is and what the changes have been. We did not change anything in dining services other than the card itself and the reader," said Ted Mayer, Director of Dining Services. Mayer said that Middining would wait until the college decided on its new dining plan, before acquiring new systems to work with the MiddCard. "Why spend sixty, seventy thousand dollars on a program, which is what it costs, when in fact it might not be the right thing?" Mayer said.

When the new ID cards were first issued, technical problems caused long lines at Proctor and the FIC dining halls. While the college still used essentially the same program for verifying diners, the transition was not painless. "There still had to be some tweaking of the new program interface with the new readers." He added that this "tweaking" was necessary because the college was creating its own system "because we wanted to be on the cutting edge." Once the software was tweaked, the time students spent at the card readers was cut almost in half to about six and a half seconds. While there are still some issues to resolve, the administration hopes soon to expand the use of the card into building access, downtown shopping, and even banking.



Kate Ryan

Professor Paul Nelson lectured on "The Closing of the American Mind."

Forum questions university's place

By Jay Dealy
Managing Editor

In 1987, Allan Bloom, professor in the Committee on Social Thought at the University of Chicago, published a book on the nature of higher education entitled "The Closing of the American Mind." Last Wednesday the Middlebury Political Forum held a discussion on the questions raised by Bloom in his best-selling work.

The forum opened with presentations by Professor Paul Nelson of the Political Science Department and Philosophy Professor Richard Arthur. Nelson discussed the difference between the activity and the role of the university. The role concerns the function played by the university in society, whereas the activity concerns what happens within the institution. The role is to produce great leaders, Nelson said, but "the activity of the university is thinking." Nelson remarked that Bloom was more concerned with thinking, and "the classroom was the center of his life."

Bloom's book was based on his experiences at universities around the country, including Cornell, Yale and the University of Chicago. Universities, however, are focused to a large extent on vocations, Nelson said, whereas colleges concentrate on liberal learning. He wondered if Bloom's picture of American education would have been different if he had taught at a liberal arts college.

There were problems with "The Closing of the American Mind," Nelson admitted. Bloom neglected the sciences, he said, and his recollections of university life in the 50s, 60s and 70s were not entirely accurate.

Arthur then argued that there were serious problems with Bloom's conception of the proper role of the university. He recalled how he was attacked by President Botstein of Bard College in a *New York Times* editorial for teaching a freshman seminar entitled "Hitchhikers Guide to Philosophy." Botstein, whom Arthur identified as a "Bloomian," believed that courses should center around the great books of philosophic thought. Arthur defended his course, saying that contemporary works, such as "The Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy," can serve an important pedagogical purpose by introducing students to the questions presented in more serious works, such as those of Plato, which were also included in his seminar.

This episode, Arthur said, demonstrated the "elitism" inherent in Bloom's great books approach. Curricular changes such as those advocated by Botstein could not be implemented on the departmental level, Arthur said, and consequently they must be imposed on professors from above. In addition, Arthur called Bloom's book "blatantly sexist." Another problem with the book, Arthur contended, was that there was a rhetorical side to its argument: Bloom used a "noble lie" to hide his elitism behind a facade of pretending to help democracy.

After these remarks, an open forum followed. Many questions centered around students' need for practical applications for what they learned. Darren Bloch '97 queried the relation of philosophical study to life outside college. He also said, "students should be more critical of the teachers they choose," for teachers play a significant role in the de-

(see Forum, page 4)

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Ferris details patient care, state of medical profession

By Emily Manning
In Depth Editor

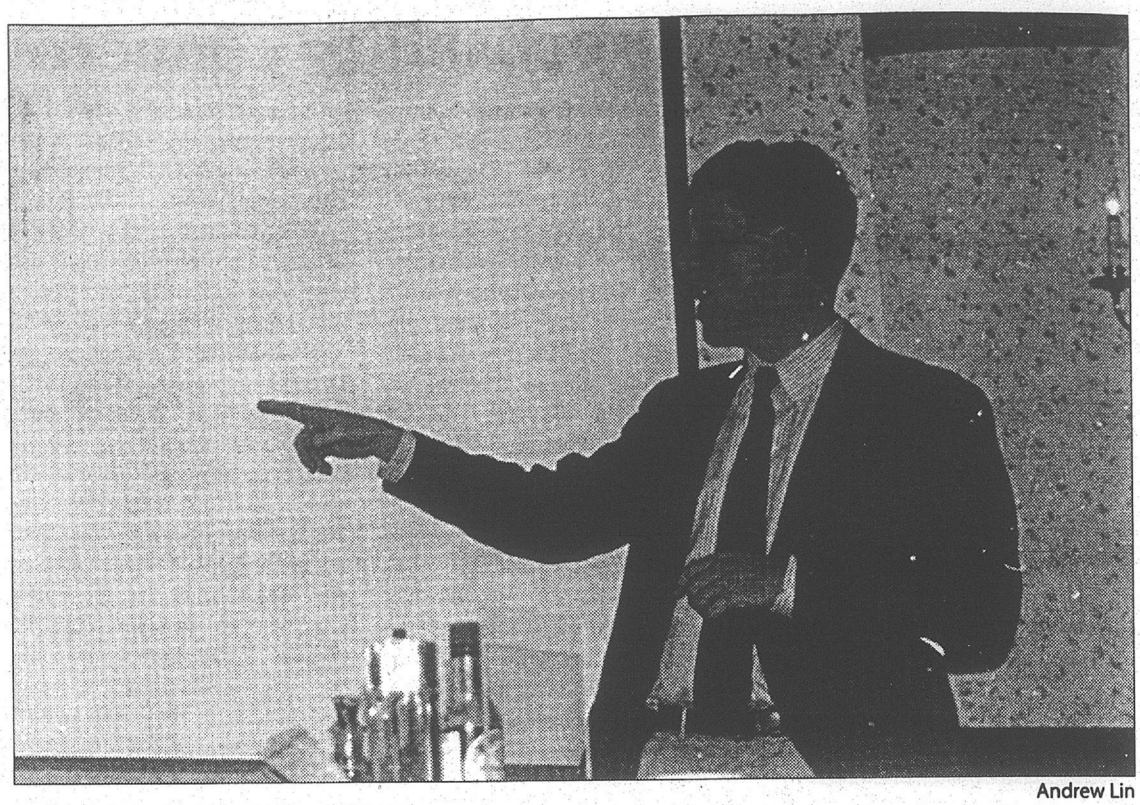
Twelve years ago, Tim Ferris M.D. graduated from Middlebury with degrees in both English and psychology. As a recipient of a Watson Scholarship, he studied social anthropology at Oxford University for about a year before continuing on to Harvard Medical School in 1988. Now a Clinical and Research Fellow in the Health Policy Research Unit with Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) and Harvard Medical School, he is studying the factors that influence the quality of medical care. Last Thursday he returned to Middlebury to present his lecture entitled, "Is your doctor spending enough time with you?: Quality issues in managed care."

"I hope you don't think I'm going to answer that question," he joked . "It was just to get you here." According to Ferris, there is no easy answer to the question. "Length and patient satisfaction are two separate entities," he stated.

"The current sentiment concerning managed health care," he said, "is that people aren't getting the quality they used to get. The public's perception of health care has changed. But, health care has changed drastically as well." In cooperation with David Blumenthol, chief of the health policy research unit at MGH, Ferris is examining several complex factors that seem to affect the quality and perception of health care. The major components of his study include: how visitation length has changed, what factors are influencing visit duration, quality and satisfaction, and what role insurance plays in health care.

Contrary to public perception, physicians are actually spending more time with patients than they have in the past; since 1979 the duration of visitation has risen steadily. According to Ferris' study, the average length of an adult primary care visit is 18 minutes. The reason there has been such an increase in the amount of time doctors are spending with the patients is that the diagnoses is getting more complex. "Healthy exams take longer," he explained. "Patient visits are more centered around preventative medicine."

According to Ferris, doctors spend far more time counseling patients. They do more screenings, discuss procedures more thoroughly, and spend more time making patients aware of medical problems that may affect them in the future. Based on his findings, Ferris believes doctors are actually doing a much better job providing health services than they have in the past.



Andrew Lin

Dr. Tim Ferris spoke to the college community concerning factors that influence the quality of medical care.

So why the negative public perception? Ferris' answer concerns the new role of insurance companies and managed care. Physicians are no longer overseeing their own practice. Instead they have managers who evaluate their performance in order to enable them to compete successfully for business. "In the past, doctors didn't need [managers] because the viability of their practice wasn't at stake," Ferris explained. "Doctors never had to compete."

It is not the quality of technical care, but the patients' satisfaction that causes physicians to lose business. According to Ferris' data, it is actually cheaper to make a patient satisfied than give him quality care.

Ferris indicated that the more time patients spent with doctors, the more satisfied they were. People were also more likely to be satisfied if the doctor included the patient in making decisions about care.

Insurance companies have a more prominent role in health care as well. Because insurers set limits on how much money they will spend on each patient, doctors have to worry about whether the company will be paying for the services. "You don't know if a patient is capitated. There is always pressure you are going to lose money every time you see a patient," Ferris commented. "No one has shown capitation affects quality, but there is a lot of feeling it does."

Generally, health care insurers in the United States are moving toward the administration of policies involving limits on the amount of money that can be spent on each patient. "This affects me in a negative way," said Ferris. "I've had patients who say to me, 'are you not giving me a CAT scan because, when it comes down to it, it comes out of your pocket?' Because of setting patient spending, patients don't trust what I think is the right thing to do."

Burns '99 wins first Baumgarten, Udzenija award

By Alyson Cucci
Staff Writer

Elizabeth Burns '99 has won the first annual Baumgarten and Udzenija Memorial Award, established last year to commemorate Matteo Baumgarten '98 and Marija Udzenija '99 who died in an automobile accident in 1995. Last year, SGA members Tracy Varghese '96 and Slavko Andrejevic '98 designed the award which stipulates that nominees must be sophomores who exhibit a passion for learning, demonstrate excellent academic achievement as well as significant involvement in the college community and a genuine commitment to and compassion for others. Burns was selected by the Dean of Student's Office from nominations submitted by members of the college community. As the co-chair of Brainerd Commons, co-Coordinator of the Coalition for Feminist Consciousness, and a member of both the Residential Life Committee and Inter-Commons Council, Burns is widely involved in leadership positions. Amy Horner '97 works with Burns on some of these committees and nominated her because of her "poise, sophisticated insight into residential life issues, her well-formed observations, and her enthusiasm and drive to overcome any obstacle."

Horner credited her nominee with working, in her role as coordinator of the CFC, "to provide a support network for women on campus," an endeavor Burns continues as a participant on the Gender Task Force and a Community Relations Advisor on issues of race and gender. Furthermore, Horner commended Burns for consistently showing compassion for and commitment to her friends while playing an active role in the college community. The award consists of a plaque and approximately $400, money to be used toward tuition or books. The money comes from a $10,000 endowment the SGA raised by selling a limited edition Sabra Field print of Mead Chapel.

Burns will receive the award next Tuesday at a ceremony that will be attended by family members of both Baumgarten and Udzenija.

Forum questions university's place

(continued from page 3)

velopment of perspectives on morality and truth. Others wondered whether the emphasis of education should be on preparing civic leaders or on cultivating one's appreciation for learning. Questions about the inculcation of virtue, whether it can be taught in the classroom or only by example, also sparked a lively exchange.

There were approximately 35 students at the discussion, and their reaction was positive. Heather Thompson '97, who organized the forum, said, "I was surprised and encouraged by the interest on campus in discussing the issues surrounding liberal education."

Irakly Areshidze '00 thought the forum raised some important points about democracy and education. "Even Jefferson, the greatest of all democrats, advocated education to produce a natural aristocracy, because that's the only way to preserve democracy and prevent mob rule," he said.

Faculty support was also strong. There were over a dozen professors in attendance, representing various fields, including economics, political science, Japanese history, philosophy, religion, and classics. "There should be another discussion," urged Political Science Visiting Instructor Paul Caresse, "without the distraction of Bloom but still keeping the minority Socratic position."

The high turnout, he said, "suggests uneasiness, a questioning, and uncertainty about what liberal education is by the people who are in the midst of it."

"Maybe what could come out of the discussion is an allowance for difference — allow for the option for a program of study that offered a more coherent presentation of the great questions in metaphysics, poetry and religion," said Caresse.

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Campus Security Log

The Department of Public Safety responded to the following incident reports.

02/27/97	Responded to a report of a student driving on the lawn behind Milliken, Hadley, Kelly and Lang.
02/27/97	Received a report of a stolen computer from KDR.
02/28/97	Responded to an illegal party at Battell.
02/28/97	Responded to an intoxicated student at Fiese.
02/28/97	Responded to a report of a student driving on the lawn by Battell Road.
02/28/97	Confiscated a false ID from a student in Stewart.

If you have any information on the above incidents, please contact the Department of Public Safety at x-5911 or x-5133.

SGA finalizes proposal on EAC representation

(continued from page 1)

the student interest as well as possible. I want to make sure the college moves in a forward direction."

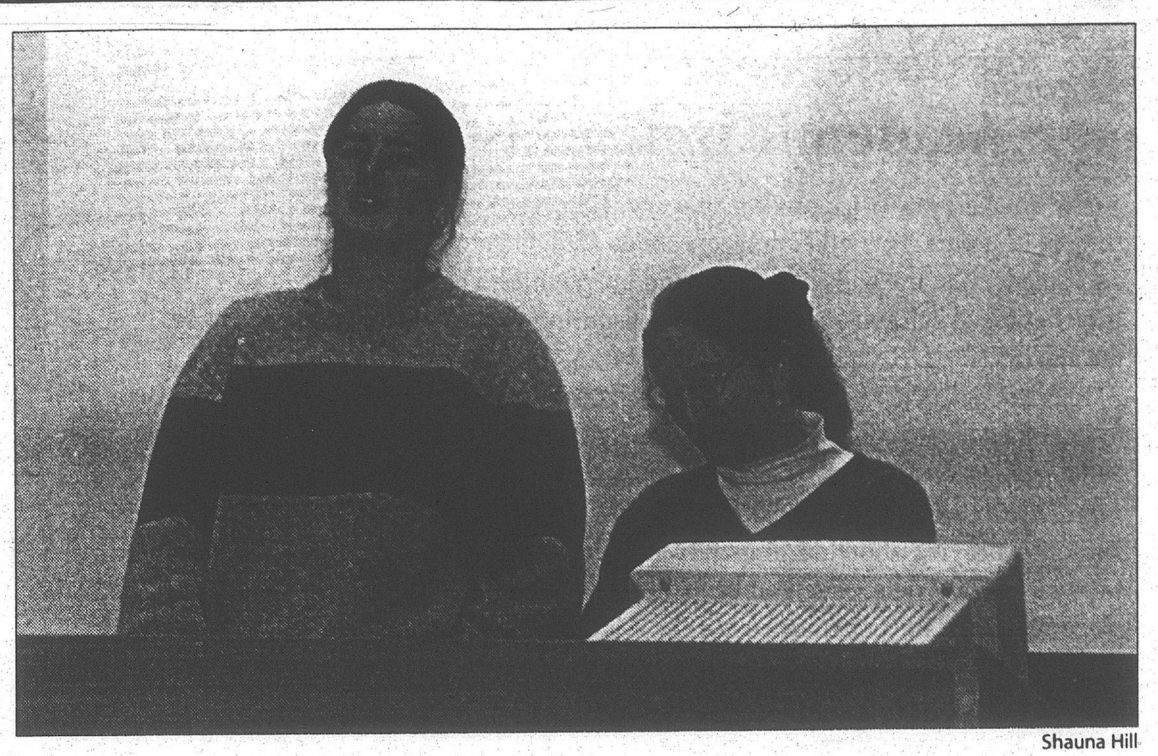
Schine explained that the EAC was charged with deciding "on matters of resource allocation, which departments get what, new programs, new positions, changes to the freshman seminar program ... everything that is in the domain of the faculty." He explained that student representation was originally excluded from the proposal because it was impossible that matters of confidentiality would not come up ... Additionally, he said, student representatives would not be able to stay for matters that dealt with confidentiality, which might lead to "a side effect of suspicions... students may ask, 'why do we have to leave now?' Then there is the question of when we can bring them back in ... only tenured faculty members would be allowed to sit on this committee, and it would be out of synch to include the students in such a committee."

Schine went on to point out that the board of trustees has no vote in this process. "The students have more voice in this process that you may realize," he said in explaining the power position which the students would hold. In the new EAC, he added, students will "be able to persuade a committee that had actual power."

Some members of the SGA still were not satisfied with this explanation. Irakly Areshidze '00 pointed out that when talking about "the government of the school" we are talking about something that concerns the students. He said that the proposal was "quasi-governing ... a lot of rhetoric and politically correctness but no substance." He criticized the faculty who composed the proposal for not having a "big debate" over the involvement of students and argued that originally there was no room for the students in the proposal. Finally, he said that "the president of the SGA should be trusted enough to be on this committee because she represents 2000 students, and it is the students who make the college what it is."

Areshidze was not alone in his criticism of the proposal, even with the new amendment. Both Zac Stillerman '97, chair of the finance committee, and Kelley Foley '99 voted against the amendment to the proposal.

Appel defended the amendment saying that "we're not going to get a vote. This amendment provides as much voice from the students as possible." She pointed out that the right to speak in the EAC would be a strong one. All issues would be required to be brought before the SEAC before the EAC brought them to the faculty. The SEAC could bring issues to the table of the EAC, as well as persuade the members to vote in a certain way. Essentially, students would be working closely with the faculty in a committee that actually has power to make changes. The offering of the cookies, which Lewis referred to as the "Olive Branch Treaty," and the new amendment seemed to appeal to most of the members of the SGA, who voted to support the amended proposal when it is presented to the faculty. Two bills were also passed during the meeting. The first, presented by Jennifer Gelb '97, called for the establishment of a shuttle that would run from the college to Burlington around times of travel, such as winter, February and spring breaks. The shuttle would run on a fixed schedule and would charge a small fee. The other bill was presented by Amanda Shoemaker '97 and involved the posting of professors' office hours on the web for easy access. The members also voted for the SGA Recognition of Faculty and Staff of the Year award. The faculty nominees are John Elder, Barbara Bellows, Matt Dickerson, Carlos Velez, Elizabeth Enne, Will Nash, John Spencer, Paul Nelson and Stephen Abbott. The staff nominees are Russell Hulst, Kathy Ebner and Linda Ross.



Shauna Hill

Lauren Appel '97 and Jennifer Gelb '97 proposed an amendment to provide student representation to the EAC.

Council approves creation of Chinese, Italian houses

By Laurie Manus
Sports Editor

Community Council has accepted two proposals for a Chinese and an Italian language house. Council President Laura Coogan '97 said, "We decided both houses had merit."Community Council's role is to approve or reject the proposal for a house. Next, these proposals will go to Kathy Ebner, director of residential life, to determine where the houses will be located on campus.

The Italian house was proposed in the last week of J-term, but a final decision was put off because council members wanted to consider the proposal for a Chinese house simultaneously. A group of Chinese language students put forth a proposal to Community Council for a Chinese house to be instituted in the fall of '97. Sophomores Matt Holmes and Jeff Graham successfully convinced Community Council on March 3 of the necessity and large demand for a Chinese house on campus. One of the major controversies surrounding the creation of more academic interest houses is that it could conflict with seniors wanting on-campus houses. This type of special language housing might take away senior housing to give to underclassmen. Holmes responded by saying that juniors and seniors would be prioritized among all of those interested in the house.

Professor John Berninghausen, of the Chinese department, came with Holmes and Graham to support a Chinese house. Berninghausen explained that he was not surprised by the student proposal because since the establishment of the Chinese department at least six other groups of students have approached him asking for support of a Chinese house.

Berninghausen was extremely impressed by the two sophomores' initiative because he believed that if this goal were to be realized it had to be totally done by the students to demonstrate their strong desire to form the house. Berninghausen was more positive about this year's proposal because Graham and Holmes had a list of 27 students presently living on campus who pledged that they would live in the Chinese house if there were one. Furthermore, at least four more students presently abroad studying Chinese have committed themselves to the establishment of a house. The proposed house would only hold between eight to 12 students. Assistant Chinese Professor Thomas Moran lived in a Chinese house at Cornell University, and found that the house would provide an environment which would encourage students to speak and think in Chinese outside of class. Although the students developing the plans for the house do not wish to institute a language pledge similar to that of summer school in the house, they hope the house will provide an atmosphere very close to true immersion. Holmes said that there was no place in the Chinese house for people who are not seeking to live in an intensive Chinese environment. However, he fears a pledge would scare people away from entering, visiting, or living in the house. The Chinese house will also be used as a center for East Asian and Chinese studies and events. Currently most of the East Asian Cultural Club events are held within Wonnacott Commons because of faculty ties between the two groups.

An institutionalized Chinese house would also ease the transition between summer school and Middlebury for many students.

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Editorial

Academic immunity

The quickest way to irk professors everywhere is to bring up the subject of tenure. Few other subjects are as passionately debated and defended in the halls of colleges and universities. Though an incarnation of evil to some, there is no disputing the benefits of the system.

Tenure shelters the scholar. It provides professors the freedom to teach material they believe is relevant to students' advancement. Tenure allows professors, who act as advisors, protection to be candid with their students regarding other classes and professors, without worrying about administrative or departmental ramifications. Tact is always warranted, but honesty is not compromised. Not only should the benefits of tenure be continued for professors — this noble institution should be extended to every aspect of our academic environment. Let everyone delight in the freedom and security that tenure offers.

Coaches should be granted tenure. Give them the independence to experiment with those new defensive formations, to exhibit their creativity without worrying about the team's final performance. Employees from administrators to maintenance staff should be granted the privileges of this extraordinary system. Grounds crews with clever new ideas about how shrubs should be cut and the grass should be mowed should have the freedom and security to experiment with their inventiveness. Cooks in dining services should have the independence to prepare what they think are the best dishes.

The group that would benefit most from tenure status, though, is the students. Who else could take true advantage of the liberty, security, and creativity that tenure represents? College is supposed to be the period in one's life when experimentation is not only permitted but encouraged. Yet, how unfettered can students really be in their academic pursuits with the concerns of an impending future upon them? How creative can scholars be when their first concern is whether they are going to receive a good grade, or whether their thesis advisor will approve of the perspective that they have developed?

The university, college, academy, should be recognized as an environment not necessarily of teachers and students, but of scholars. Students, as fellow scholars, require much the same protection, for many of the same reasons, that professors claim. Why provide teachers the freedom to develop ideas and the security to implement them when pupils remain bound by conventional liabilities and insecurities?

DSB

The Middlebury Campus

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I BET WE WON'T GET ANY MORE BIG SNOWS
PERHAPS.
SINNICK 3.4.97
IT'S DEFINITELY GETTIN' WARMER.
YUP.
Brrr
RUNNING A LITTLE LOW ON CLEAN LAUNDRY, EH?
NO, JUST UH... WORKING ON MY SOCK TAN...

Letters to the Editor

First-year responds to criticism of EC/EQ programs

Promoting ideals of conservation is proving to be quite a hardship on this Middlebury campus of ours. Some students seem to be responding negatively to the whole-hearted efforts of a few dedicated, environmentally conscious workers. Specifically, I am addressing the two extremely absurd critiques of environmental actions that appeared in the February 26 edition of *The Campus*.

I am at a loss to rationalize what exactly Anna Baghdasarian and Brian Deese were trying to accomplish by trashing the recent efforts of Environmental Quality and Jen Hazen, the college's Environmental Coordinator. Both articles presented arguments that seemed to do nothing but criticize. I would argue that these two students need to remove some of their petty criticisms and overcome their own lack of solutions. I just cannot understand why Deese and Baghdasarian insist on criticizing our efforts, yet do not offer any alternatives.

The main critique of Anna's article, and a portion of Brian's, was the ineffectiveness of Weigh Your Waste, an EQ-sponsored activity which has been routinely carried out at Proctor for the past few months.

This activity presents food waste in all of its glory. It is an "in your face" approach to prompting a dawn of realization in this student body. The waste is stinky and disgusting.

If this waste did not exist in such an immense bounty, perhaps Anna would lose her non-

(see Criticism, page 8)

Students defend purpose of "Weigh Your Waste"

When you go to Proctor, please do not take more food than you are going to eat. This simple plea is the purpose behind "Weigh Your Waste." We are not asking you to single-handedly end Global Deforestation or repair the Ozone Layer or even provide sustainable development for Third World countries. We realize that environmental issues are not the top priority for all Middlebury students, but "Weigh Your Waste" is about taking responsibility for your own actions.

We all create waste. It's ugly. It smells bad. But, unlike many other aspects of Middlebury College, it is a reality. When the idea of "Weigh Your Waste" was brought to the attention of the Environmental Quality Club, we saw it as a simple local issue that could be tangibly improved upon before moving on to "larger" issues. We need to examine our own small lives before we can even consider changing the world.

We are surprised and saddened by the fact that this project has run into so much opposition. If there is such a great resistance to such a seemingly minor issue, then what will we have to face when more challenging issues are confronted? If Middlebury students are unable to emerge from their bubbles of comfort long enough to realize the effects of their own waste, and as a result take less food the next time they go to the dining hall, then we need a stench far more potent than anything that wafts out of those buckets to wake this campus up from its numb state of self-concern.

The issue of food waste can also be seen on a level other than that of environmentalism: think of it as an issue of basic respect for fellow human beings. When you put your trays on those magical rotating racks, they are not whirred off to an unseen far away land.

The food is scraped off and composted by other people, namely the dining hall staff (which includes our peers.) If the "uniquely disgusting" smell "disrupts" your fragile senses, then perhaps it is also found revolting by the people who have to deal with it on a regular basis. In addition, common sense tells us that the same food that was sitting on trays throughout the cafeteria does not summon "infectious viruses" when combined in a plastic bucket. And we can assure you that we are not injecting poisonous chemicals and/or deadly viruses into the food as we "rip the trays from your hands without warning."

In response to those who have determined that no good could possibly come out of "Weigh your Waste," we would like to present the hard fact that student waste has been reduced from 0.4 pounds of food per student to 0.2 pounds since November 14 when the project began. This is a positive trend: let's continue it. Now, we don't want to be seen as self-righteous or confrontational; we admit that we all waste and that no one is a model environmentalist.

All we ask is that we all re-examine our habits to make painless, but beneficial, changes. And we truly welcome constructive criticism. Come to a meeting of the Environmental Quality Club (Wednesdays, 7pm, third floor of Adirondack). Let's not waste our efforts bickering over this issue when there are so many other problems that demand our attention.

Sarah Borch and Nicole Lanthier are members of the Middlebury College Class of 1999.

College limits student voice

Sometime in February of last year, on a very happy day of my life, I received a letter from Mr. Hanson, our Director of Admissions, telling me that I was

Irakly Areshidze '00

accepted to Middlebury. The letter also said the following: "The admissions process is very much a mutual selection, and neither you nor we will be quite the same again.

You will help shape our community, even as you are shaped by it, and we will learn and grow together, not only for the next four years, but long after." Those two sentences basically summarized why I knew I wanted to come here long before I was accepted. They were so well written and said something that was so important to me that I even quoted them in my Graduation Address.

An academic community is a place where, as the Headmaster of my alma mater says, "people come together to share academic knowledge (that's what we do in most classes) but also the knowledge about the human existence necessary to become better human being."

Before I thought that you could not really learn that in classes. In the last several months, though, I have discovered that you can, because that's what true liberal arts education is about. Yet, that is besides the point.

Either way, one of the main ingredients of knowledge about human existence is the ability to work together with people in your community and to lead your community in one way or another. I am talking about governance or the ability to govern. We are raising leaders here and knowledge of governing means knowledge of leadership.

Here I am in this Middlebury community trying to become a [better] leader, not only for my four years here but also in preparation for the world that awaits me.

I am not starting from scratch. I have already been a leader of an academic community, which, though smaller, was very much like Middlebury. Yet right now I am just learning about how to work within the Middlebury community and I see some problems with it.

One of the main problems is the way students are treated in this community and how the students react to that treatment with regard to their role in governing the school. Two weeks ago, Professor Schine of the Religion Department came to the SGA to try to convince us that going from having four members on the Education Council to having no direct representation on a new committee which would replace the EC was somehow good for the student body. The most ridiculous thing is that after two weeks a majority of the SGA General Assembly accepted what Dr. Schine was selling.

I think I may have confused people, so let me go back. The Faculty Council was proposing to the faculty to create a new Committee (Education Affairs Committee) to replace the Education Council. The rationale was that the Education Council was a totally useless body and that something new, and with greater authority, was needed. However, there is no student representation on this new Education Affairs Committee.

So Dr. Schine came to the SGA to propose a new form of student representation even though the Education Council had four student members. To give students representation demanded by "political correctness," another committee would be formed with only students on it which would consult

(see Areshidze, page 9)

Libby stresses need for debate over crucial issues

"An unexamined life is not worth living." If I have had a goal every week in writing this column it has been to examine my own views, to put forth ideas, and to start a dialogue. I put little faith in the inertia of prevalent thought. The majority of people in this country are perfectly willing to follow the tides of government,

And another thing...

by Sean Libby '97

voting for the establishment until a period of recession forces us to throw the incumbents out, or a scandal brings down the man we all idolized the year before. We hold political views similar to the economic fallacies of Marx. We believe that those before us have created the government we should all live under, and it is now our simple duty to act as caretakers to the creations of greater minds than ours. Americans believe that it is no longer necessary to engage in all-encompassing debates about fundamental issues of how we choose to govern and be governed. Instead we wait for the next paycheck or the next report card and hold firm to our conviction that the time for great thought ended some two hundred years ago.

It didn't.

The genius of our constitution is its malleability. It was not passed without being amended. The framers recognized the progressive nature of government. They knew that the people must always be governed, not by the dictums of a time gone past, but by the best parts of our nature, of our intellect, and of our compassion. We have been given the gift of trust by our founders. This is our country to do with as we see fit. And what are we doing?

Here on this very campus are gathered what is supposed to be a collection of some of the most intelligent, perceptive and progressive people in the world. We have been given advantages academically, economically and intellectually. This is supposed to be our time to question everything. We are supposed to be young and revolutionary. This is the time that we are supposed to look back on as the idealistic days of our youth, the days when we thought we could change everything. Do we even think that? We seem content to accept the world that was handed to us and to simply go to a couple of keggers on the way to our job as a banker/lawyer/doctor. I'm not denigrating the pursuit of these jobs. It's the way that most of us got here in the first

I have written what I freely admit to be radical columns. They have drawn into question many of the sacred cows of our society. I must admit to being greatly disappointed to the responses I have received in discussing them. I talk about the basic contract and people call me silly.

place. But can't that be coupled with something more? In between our pre-professional classes can't we take a little time to ask why it is that man enters into a contract to be governed?

I have written what I freely admit to be radical columns. They have drawn into question many of the sacred cows of our society. I must admit to being greatly disappointed to the responses I have received in discussing them. I talk about the basic contract and people call me silly. I ask why it is that, if we are born free, we are forever putting ourselves into chains. I say

(see Libby, page 9)

Sitaula analyzes the state of the EU

Céline was, by all means, more open minded than the average Frenchwoman. While in the TGV, the French bullet train, on her way to

Raju Sitaula '98

Paris from Nice, this twenty-something Frenchwoman was worried that she might miss her job interview with a German company because the TGV was stopped for a few hours by bad weather. Yet, when asked what she thinks about the Germans, she said bluntly, "I don't trust them!" Céline is not alone in feeling this way. Even after four decades of effort towards the creation of a unified Europe, two of Europe's largest partners, the Germans and the French, hardly trust each other. So what if Jaques Chirac and Helmut Kohl meet every other month to show the world that Franco-German unity is here to stay. Their countrymen do not share even a fraction of their enthusiasm for realizing this unprecedented task of unifying Europe by peace.

It was not always like this. The idea of European union was once genuinely popular. It was probably one of the biggest factors in creating the post war prosperity of Western Europe. More than anything, it contributed towards the stability without which the swift and successful recovery of Europe from the ruins of Second World War would not have been possible.

But today, European unification is becoming a liability to the European governments. The record low popularity of Jaques Chirac in France, the question of Helmut Kohl 's election success in Germany next year, all point out that the commitment to the European Union is proving to be very costly for the governments of the member countries.

What went wrong? While the differences between the European countries will always make European unification an Herculean task, the closer economic integration, namely the goal of a single European currency by 1999, is the biggest culprit of the decreasing Eurpean enthusiasm for the union and this single currency might actually destroy everything that has been achieved so far towards creating a single European identity.

The European leaders ...are wrong. A single European currency will not bring an economic boom to Europe because Europe's lackluster economic performance is not due to the presence of many different currencies.

The European leaders argue that having a single currency will facilitate political union. They also argue that Europe needs a strong currency to counter a strong dollar and a strong yen and that single currency will bring an economic boom to a stagnant European market.

They are wrong. A single European currency will not bring an economic boom to Europe because Europe's lackluster economic performance is not due to the presence of many different currencies. The only Europeans to benefit from this single currency will be the German tourists going to the French Riviera or the French tourists going to Amsterdam because they will not have to pay commission for changing their money

European businesses will not benefit from this single currency. Today the exchange rate of European currencies is decided by the market which reflects the economic strength of each country. The German Mark, for example, is more stable than the Portuguese Escudo because the German economy is stronger than the Portuguese economy. Now, when Europeans have the same currency, the Portuguese businesses will not have the advantage of a cheap currency for exporting to other European countries and the German businesses will not have the advantage of a stable currency.

(see Sitaula, page 9)

Lee explains purpose of Earthstock 1997

Looking for something to do during Spring Break that is life-changing? Attend Earthstock '97 in Piscataway, NJ, from April 4-6. It could just be the Woodstock of our generation. There will be a wide range of speakers and bands. Dr. Helen Caldicott, founder of Physicians for Social Responsibility and author, will be speaking

Walk in Balance

by Alexander Lee '97

about the dangers of nuclear power. Adam Werbach, the twenty-three year old President of the Sierra Club, will also deliver an address. Rusted Root may appear. Cosy Sheridan, winner of the Telluride Folk Festival last year, has already agreed to do a gig.

This planning effort by the nation's largest student environmental groups — including Free The Planet!, the Sierra Student Coalition, NJPIRG, and several SEAC chapters — is what the youth movement has needed for a while. We need to prove that this is an activist generation, not a complacent and disinterested one. We must show that we can organize on a massive level for social change.

Unity, dispersal of information, and activism: these are the philosophical goals of this conference. Ultimately, a compelling argument needs to be made for why we are ail environmentalists. It is not the job of a few to protect and foster the Creation. We must all celebrate it and recognize our responsibility to future generations. Hunters, loggers, mothers, fathers, factory workers, college students, we must all work together.

Free The Planet!, the chief sponsor of the conference, aims to motivate people to act and to act together. By providing skills and campaign workshops, in addition to opportunities for regional networking, the planners hope to release a host of trained activists by the end of the weekend. If it seems idealistic, come and see how much you can learn in two and a half days.

Free The Planet! has five campaigns. Dispersing information on these diverse topics is another important goal of the conference. The campaigns include putting a stop to corporate welfare; saving public lands from the 105th Congress; strengthening the Endangered Species Act; ridding our neighborhoods of the chemicals that produce dioxins and other toxins; and encouraging the use of renewable energy sources in order to curb nuclear power.

When the idea for this first appeared, there were three words which everybody agreed should define our primary purpose: MAKE IT FUN. If Earthstock '97 is anything, it will be fun. Music and good food, laughter and new friendships will be what you remember about this event.

To learn more about Earthstock send an e-mail to sage.rockermann@ssc.org or give me ring at extension 3519.

Student reviews high and lows of Middlebury life

Noah Bruce '98

I was thinking to myself while away from Middlebury — "Hey I like to write, how come I don't get myself a column and express my views? But I'm just your average dude. What are my issues? What can I rant and rave about? I don't have any words of wisdom for the tense racial debate that goes back and forth in this paper every week. I like the environment, but hey, the clothesline plan just isn't my thing. The SGA what? Buddy, I just don't care. I care about grilled cheese day and the waterfall in town. I care about finding a parking space and keeping the back door to the health center open. I like to appreciate the little things about Middlebury that make my days here happy, and I like to complain about those bone-headed things that drive me batty. So here it is, my worm's eye view of Middlebury; my first list of good and bad stuff

Good Stuff:

1. Mead Chapel — I like landmarks that let you feel like you know where you are. For example, when I was in Paris there was always the Eiffel Tower and these little French guys in berets named Pierre. I said "I'm in Paris." And when I look at Mead, I say "I'm in a little New England town." Mead sits there on the top of the hill, imposing like, with its steeple and its big columns. Once someone pointed out to me that except for the inscription, the steeple, and the triangle messing it up, Mead would be a nice replica of a Greek temple. Well, I don't want a Greek Temple. I want Mead. And a word about those words: "And the Strength of the Hills is His Also."

You either like 'em or you hate 'em, but even if you don't care, you have to admit that if you are going to build a chapel it might as well be dedicated to a tough god, and any deity with the strength of the hills is one to be reckoned with.

2. The Drunk Bus (officially named Safe Rides) — The other night my friend and I were walking home from Baba's, and it's not a far walk, but it was really cold and windy. I remarked to my friend about this.

Me: "Hey, its really cold."

Bardolf: "Yes, and mark the wind's lashes."

We had gotten about ten steps into our journey when this big blue van with the words Bet-Cha printed on it roiled up. "Whooo-Hooo!" I yelled. "Capital," said Bardolf.

We weren't drunk, but it was a pleasure to have a nice warm ride back to our dorm. On the way the friendly lady who drives the bus chatted to us about the state of schlepping drunk kids around at Middlebury. "Slow night. In fact we really haven't logged the numbers we did last year." An excellent service, and cheers to Ad-Cag (Adison County Community Action Group) and the College for providing it.

The way they do it at a school like University of Vermont is smarter. The kids have a food account and every time they eat, money is deducted from it. This account works for all vending machines, cafeterias, crest room equivalents, and even some pizza joints.

3. The Salad Bar at Proctor — Say what you will about Proctor food, but they have a good salad bar. They have the basics: lettuce, tomatoes, green peppers, mushrooms, and onions, but they also have kidney beans, spinach, peas, baby corn, chicken salad, marinated tortellini, beets, tabouli, cabbage, coleslaw, pickles (sour and dill,) artichoke hearts, and feta and mozzarella cheeses. They even have tofli (cold bean curd by definition) if you are so inclined. In short, they have what you want in a salad bar — lots of stuff

Bad Stuff:

1. The Salad Dressings at the Salad Bar at Proctor — Seems like a nice selection at first glance, but delve a little deeper and you'll see that choices are woefully lacking in quality. Cranberry and wild berry (fat free) are way too sweet, Ken's Fat Free Italian tastes like mayonnaise, creamy cucumber has a disagreeable aftertaste, and promising balsamic dijon is just plain bad.

Only ranch and sun-dried tomato (also fat free) escape my gastronomic wrath, but even they rank only average at best. The choice of vinegars, oils, and spices help things out, but we need better dressing. Forget Ken, we should get Paul Newman's Own. Not only is it good dressing, the proceeds go to charity.

2. The Windows of Mead Chapel — Mead chapel is striking, but its windows look like they came from my high school bathroom; opaque gray or dark green. These glass panes match neither the chapel nor each other. Surely the college could splurge and fix up its best looking building. Clear glass, colored glass, stained glass: anything would be an improvement.

3. The Meal Plan — The meal plan at Middlebury is stupid. First of all, every time you miss a meal you are losing money: $4 for breakfast $4 for lunch and $7 for dinner. For those of us who value sleep more than breakfast, this is a lot of dough. Secondly, the Crest Room should be included in the meal plan. You miss dinner because you're out doing good deeds, so you have to have a sandwich at the Crest Room. You are penalized twice.

Once for the food you didn't eat at dinner and then for what you chow at the Crest Room which comes out of your pocket, and goes on your PIN bill, or comes out of the chip on your Midd Card. The way they do it at a school like University of Vermont is smarter.

The kids have a food account and every time they eat, money is deducted from it. This account works for all vending machines, cafeterias, crest room equivalents, and even some pizza joints. At Middlebury it would work like the chip on our Midd Card except with a limit far higher than $20. This would allow for a fairer and more flexible eating plan. You could eat when you want and where you want without feeling guilty for skipping a meal.

And maybe a deal could be worked out between the College and Lee Zach's allowing for some 'za to be placed in our college food account.

Senior urges student responsibility

Sarah Rebick '97

It seems like every several months someone gets fed up with all of the negative diatribes in the Opinions section and writes a letter saying that maybe Middlebury really isn't so bad. I guess it's time for me to take my turn in the defense of this place I've called home for nearly four years.

It's not that I believe Middlebury College is an utopian enclave free of faults — I'm just tired of reading the gripes ("Environmental Policies should be thoroughly examined," by Brian Deese and "Student analyzes 'Weigh Your Waste' in Proctor" by Anna Baghdasarian) conspicuously lacking constructive ideas for how to remedy the ills of our community.

One of the things I have learned is that if I don't like the way something is being done, it is unlikely that anything will change unless I make an effort to do it myself.

We are a community of intelligent people and many of us need to start using the brains and energy we possess in more constructive ways. Rather than simply complain about the state of affairs and suggest that others should find a way to fix them, we need to work to fix the problems we see ourselves. As students, this is our home for four years and for faculty and staff much longer. We should treat it as such and should put our energy into making Middlebury College a place we care about.

During my time here at Middlebury I have learned almost more than I imagined one could learn in four short years. Much of what I have learned has been academic. However, I have found that a great deal of the value of the liberal arts education Middlebury offers lies in experiences outside of the classroom.

There are endless opportunities for learning in a small close-knit community such as ours. I have learned quite a bit by watching, listening, and participating in the life of our community. Most of us have found that professors are not the only ones who can teach; we have a lot to learn from each other.

One of the things I have learned is that if I don't like the way something is being done, it is unlikely that anything will change unless I make an effort to do it myself. Simply complaining is not enough.

We students would not be here if we did not have brains in our heads — we should use them for more than just taking tests and writing papers. Life often requires dealing head-on with things which we don't like.

If Brian Deese and Anna Baghdasarian do not like the way some people on campus have chosen to affect changes they see as necessary, perhaps Deese and Baghdasarian ought to suggest better strategies for raising awareness. Both Deese and Baghdasarian agree that waste is a legitimate problem in our privileged community. However, they are offended by the method environmental activists have chosen to get people thinking about the issues.

I challenge Brian and Anna to make good use of the education they are receiving and to work with EQ, the Environmental Coordinator, Dining Services, and any other interested parties in their on-going efforts to reduce waste on our campus.

Dining Services has made an effort to reduce food waste over the past several years, most notably by allowing us to serve ourselves in the hot food lines in Proctor; however they can only do so much. In the end, nothing will change if the students who are doing the wasting do not recognize it as a problem.

I applaud the students who scrape mounds of perfectly good food into garbage cans in an effort to show students the disgusting waste we are producing.

Maybe if we took only what we intended to eat those brave souls wouldn't feel the need to offend some people. I would bet that the students who are doing the weighing probably enjoy the experience even less than students sitting nearby do.

Obviously, given the fact that the waste weighing was mentioned in two letters, the weighers are having an impact on the community, whether or not everyone likes their methods. People are becoming aware that food waste is a problem on our campus.

One of the aims of a liberal arts education is to produce responsible citizens. That entails not only uncovering the problems in a community, but offering solutions or at least a process for determining solutions to the problems.

As members of the Middlebury community, we have a responsibility to work together to solve problems we see in order to make this college a place we are proud to spend four or more years of our

Criticisms of EC/EQ answered

(continued from page 6)

sensical concern over the "infectious viruses harmful to our health" emanating from the waste buckets.

What the hell was she thinking here, anyway? The point is, food waste plentifully exists, and students need to realize it. Students do not reach this moment of epiphany by depositing their trays of waste and leaving the dining hall. Students notice the three garbage cans full of muck, and are generally disgusted, mainly, it seems, for aesthetic reasons, as the criticisms of this program demonstrate. Disgust is being vented in the wrong place.

The dedicated students, many of whom are not environmental studies majors, who are collecting the waste present students with the "foul stench" of their own making.

This stench should be a wake-up call to students; we want them to realize that they are creating the problem and are capable of providing the solution. Our purpose in continuing the Weigh Your Waste program is to determine whether or not the amount of food waste is decreasing, hopefully due to the efforts of all.

Our purpose in continuing the Weigh Your Waste program is to monitor if the amount of food waste is decreasing, hopefully due to the efforts of all. And despite what Brian Deese seems to think, the numbers are dropping.

And despite what Brian Deese seems to think, the numbers are dropping.

I am beginning to feel as if students at Middlebury have been missing the point of the various environmental activities on campus. I sense that many people are just too busy fitting into the mold of a damn lazy college student.

Students are not able to walk one foot past the trash can to recycle. Students can't walk one foot past the recycle bin to deposit trash. Cars must be driven from the dorm to the athletic facilities because the walk is too far and the weather is too cold. This raises a bigger issue: if students are too lazy to care about the existing environmental problems, what can we do to motivate them into action?

I heartily invite anyone out there, including Deese and Baghdasarian, with solutions to this and other problems, problems themselves, or questions, to call myself, Jen Hazen, or to attend an EQ meeting (Wednesdays 7 p.m., ADK).

Perhaps if those who do not understand, or simply want to present their ideas, make an effort to get involved we can really do something to instill responsibility and consciousness of action into this college.

Kate Shick is a member of the Middlebury College class of 2000.

Areshidze explores meaning of student representation

(continued from page 7)
the faculty committee once a month. There was no way, he said, that students would get any kind of vote on this new EAC. So, as *The Campus*' editorial from two weeks ago pointed out, the students were sent "back to the kiddie table."

The SGA did not like that proposal, so negotiations started. This is the result: "The Student Government shall be responsible for the appointment of four student representative to … a Student Education Affairs Committee. The Student EAC will invite one faculty member of the EAC to serve in an advisory capacity.

The EAC will meet with the Student EAC at least once a month.. The EAC will consult with the Student EAC prior to presenting proposals [to]... the full faculty ... The Student EAC my initiate proposals for consideration by the EAC. The members of the Student EAC are permitted to attend monthly faculty meetings, with the right to speak during consideration of curricular measures presented by the Education Affairs Committee."

This whole discussion was operating under a premise that students should have some kind of say in governing this school, particularly with regard to the curriculum, new departments, programs, etc.

There are some quite prominent students and I am certain there are teacher members of our community who do not think that this is true. I would have liked to see a debate about whether students should or should not have some power in governance. But that was skipped. Middlebury is a politically correct school (even though PC is destroying basic foundations of this country) so we cannot debate such a question on its merits.

Instead, lets bully the students around; lets give them a whole lot of talking power, yet no true power in governing of this school. A community is a place where the roles of governing are shared by all groups — in our case, the trustees, the administration and staff, the faculty, and the students. No one is asking for equal power of governance. The thing is that we, the students, with this issue, got not power at all.

There is a member of Congress names Elenor? (I think there's an 'a' in here somewhere) Holmes Norton. She has an office on the Capitol Hill, gets the Congressional perks, but has no power at all. For about a year she has been trying to push through a tax reduction in for D.C., and even with the help of the most powerful member of Congress, House Speaker Gingrich, she cannot get the thing passed.

One of the main reasons she cannot do things in Congress is because she is not a Representative, but rather a Delegate. This means that she can talk for as long as she wants, but she cannot vote. She can do the Congressional rhetoric, but she cannot govern.

That is what the Student Government has been reduced to with regard to the Education Affairs Committee. We can talk all they would like, yet we do not have a vote. Thus, we have no power.

Some people on this campus helped me get addicted to reading some good books. So I have had to tackle Plato lately. Plato, through Socrates, has something to say about a lot of talking in his "Gorgias."

I cannot do justice to what is in that book, but Socrates calls a whole lot of talking rhetoric. Rhetoric meanwhile is seen as a pseudo art, trying to imitate the true art of governance. Rhetoric is useless in every case but one (that one case does not pertain to us here.). Instead, much like the rhetoric, the Student Education Affairs Committee, is useless because it cannot play a direct role, through a vote, in governing. Talking is not governing. Making decisions is.

What does this development with the Education Affairs Committee have to do with the community? Well, for one thing it shows that maybe Middlebury is not a community which wants to be shaped by its students in every sense as our admissions letter stated.

If this is true, why do we not just say so? Let us be up front about what we are and what how we want to educate the future leaders who go here.

I have been here for over six months now and I know that this is a place where I belong, this is my home for the next three and a half years, and it will be a part of me for the rest of my life. I have known that I wanted to come here ever since my the end of my sophomore year in high school. I know that this is a place for me because here I can grow, I can learn, I can search for the meaning of life, and I can begin to understand what is good, what is virtuous and what is right. But I also want to learn how to govern because if I do begin to understand those things, I want to put that understanding to use. Learning how to lead a community like this one is the best way I can imagine of learning how to govern.

So why do we not drop this entire Education Affairs Committee and go back to the drawing board? Why do we not first have a debate about whether students should have a role in this particular aspect of governance?

If we decide that they do, why do we not then come up with a scenario where they will have a role in the governance, not just the talks.

Interfaith Center needed

It has a quiet place where I go to pray or meditate, with a room next door where I can have a meal to celebrate a sacred holiday. There is a library where I

Tanya Hansen '97

can sit and read about my own, or other, religions, and a large multipurpose meeting room.

Every week, my friends from other religious backgrounds get together here to have dinner, and to raise and discuss faith issues. If you've never seen this place on campus, it is because it exists only on paper, and in the hopes of a few students and faculty members. It is Middlebury's Interfaith Center.

As a member of Middlebury's Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, I feel grateful that our group has a small office space where we can store books and have organizational meetings. Even so, our large weekly meetings in Pearsons are often disrupted by, and are disruptive to, other students in the dorm. Other groups are not so lucky. Hillel's space is cramped and the Jewish students lack a kosher kitchen and dining area for their Shabbat dinners and holiday celebrations. The Islamic Society has no designated space on campus — no storage, no office, no clean, quiet place to pray — in short, no visible identity. The same goes for several of the other religious groups on campus, serving Bahá'i, Catholic, and Buddhist students.

This is not only unfair; it is simply unacceptable. This college is praised for its ethnic diversity, but the accompanying rich and varied religious backgrounds of its students have not been carefully considered. Most campus needs were addressed at the recent Draft Facilities Plan meetings. The academic, residential, athletic, social, and practical needs of the students were automatically taken into consideration. But what about spiritual needs?

Faith enriches and gives a sense of purpose and meaning to people's lives. For many, it is an integral part of human existence. If spiritual needs are not being met, people may feel extremely isolated or lonely. Especially for students who come from religious households or communities with a spiritual support system, Middlebury is a hard place to come to — not to mention those students who may be facing serious questions about belief and who desire to explore various religious traditions in order to find their own identity. A perfect response to these needs has been suggested. A centrally-located, sacred space called an Interfaith Center has been proposed to the college by several students and faculty members. It would have several of the features I described above, as well as being a quiet, substance-free area. The idea was first introduced by Steven Rockefeller in the early 1980's, and it has recently resurfaced.

At present, the newly-created Interfaith Council meets regularly with Chaplain Laurel Jordan on Wednesdays at 6:15 in Cook to discuss various faith issues and needs, as well as the exciting possibility of an Interfaith Center. The various religious organizations have voiced a strong desire to create such a space, possibly modeled after similar colleges' facilities. Williams College has a religious center, for example, as do several other of Middlebury's counterparts.

This brings me to my final point. If Middlebury wishes to compete with other quality institutions, it needs to get caught up. Let's face it, not only are the spiri-

This is not only unfair; it is simply unacceptable. This college is praised for its ethnic diversity, but the accompanying rich and varied religious backgrounds of its students have not been carefully considered. Most campus needs were addressed at the recent Draft Facilities Plan meetings … But what about spiritual needs?

tual needs of the student body not being adequately addressed, but these issues are also deciding factors for prospective students. Students who come to college seeking a place that will foster their faith should not have to pass up Middlebury because there is no visible spiritual support system.

The time to act is now. If you are interested in being involved with the efforts to rouse support for an Interfaith Center, or if you have suggestions about designs for the center itself, please speak up! You can call Corinna Luyken (x6147) for more information, join the Interfaith Council on Wednesday evenings, or write letters to Randy Landgren or John McCardell stating your desire for and support of a religious center on campus.

It's time to recognize the importance of spirituality in students' lives, and to take faith issues off the back burner at Middlebury College.

Libby stresses need for debate

(continued from page 7)
let's examine those chains and people accuse me of merely writing to get a rise out of this campus. Let's put aside the defensiveness and fear. If somebody out there wants to have a discussion on why it is that we have determined that this is legal and that is illegal, let's discuss it. A system of government can only be strengthened by honest and good-natured inquiry. Let's argue each other's positions. Let's argue the position that nobody really believes. Let's argue everything.

Argument is the best way to achieve enlightenment. It is easy to smile and nod at the prevailing system. More discussions seem to end on this campus with, "I can't tell you why, I just know that your wrong." That's unacceptable. If you feel that I'm wrong there might be a very good reason. Verify your instinct. Take it apart step by step and see what others have written about the subject. Don't resort to petty emotionalism or empty threats. Don't just laugh off discussion with a knowing smile and your parents' beliefs that it's just a phase.

Our government is on a perpetually swinging pendulum taking it from right to left. Maybe we should give it a whack so it starts swinging at a right angle. Maybe we should tape it to the damn wall. I don't know. However, I do know that I've got some ideas. If you want to talk about them then we've got a start. Let's yell and scream. Let's argue our heads off. Just don't tell me you liked my column and you saw my point of view but you somehow felt that it was wrong. If you don't know why it was wrong, don't even bother. I've got better things to do. And another thing…

Sitaula analyzes the state of the EU

(continued from page 7)
The argument that a strong European currency is needed to counter threats from the dollar and the yen is even more ridiculous. The member countries of the European Union conduct more than sixty percent of their trade among themselves. Thus, strength of the dollar and the yen is not a major factor in the economic performance of these countries.

The biggest lie is the fact that the monetary union will enhance the political union. The pro-European would argue that having the same money will foster European identity. It will not. For one thing, the burden of economic integration is becoming too heavy for the Europeans. Their governments are forced to tighten their budgets to meet the standards set by the treaty of Maastricht in order to qualify for the single currency. This has come at a time when most of the European countries are seeing record unemployment. Ordinary people feel that their governments are abandoning them.

Even if the European governments succeed in guiding their countries towards a single currency without catastrophic social repercussions, the future hardly looks promising.

If anything goes wrong in this new monetarily unified Europe, the French will be the first to blame the Germans and the Germans will blame everyone else. This might actually plant the seeds for future instability in Europe. Having a single currency will not give a single identity.

The fifteen republics of former Soviet Union had same currency for more than 70 years but that did not stop them from breaking apart.

The idea of unifying European countries is a noble one. But binding them together with a single currency is a mistake. The French will never think like the Germans. Having same money in their wallet will hardly make any difference. The best way to guarantee the unity in Europe is by respecting the differences of its member countries, not by forcing them to be same.

Céline missed her job interview. The bullet train to Paris from Nice was five hours late that day. But she will have many other opportunities. Europe is not as lucky.

Doonesbury

BY G.B. TRUDEAU

ON PLANET DOONESBURY, EVERYONE'S ON THE MOVE. DUKE HEADS FOR JERSEY...
GOOD LUCK, DAD!
DON'T WAIT UP.
MIKE AND KIM LURCH TOWARD THE ALTAR...
WE'RE PLAYING NINE INCH NAILS?
JUST FOR THE PRO-CESSIONAL.
MARK MOVES IN WITH CHASE...
CHANDELIERS? YOU HAVE CHANDELIERS?
A BABY GIFT TO GRANDMA FROM J.P. MORGAN.
...AND THE INDEPENDENT COUNSEL DREAMS OF MALIBU.
HEY... IT'S DEAN-DESIGNATE STARR!
DON'T GET UP, DUDES.
WHITEWATER INDY COUNSEL KEN STARR VISITS THE SITE OF HIS POSTPONED DREAMS.
OH, WOW—IT'S OUR DEAN-/DESIGNATE!
WELCOME TO MALIBU LAW, MR. STARR!
THANKS, BOYS! ON A BREAK FROM CLASSES?
UH... YEAH, THERE'S A LOT OF PRESSURE ON US HERE. I HOPE YOU'LL BE ABLE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT.
WHAT YEAR ARE YOU, SON?
UM... I DUNNO. FIFTH?
NO WAY, MAN. WE ENROLLED TOGETHER IN '88.
YOU'RE GOING TO LOVE IT HERE, DEAN-DESIGNATE! THE LAW SCHOOL IS WAY EXCELLENT!
WHAT ARE YOU STUDYING, YOUNG MAN?
WELL, SINCE O.J., I'VE BEEN LEANING TOWARD CRIMINAL LAW.
YOU WANT TO BE A PROSECUTOR? OR A PUBLIC DEFENDER?
NO, I WANT TO BE A SURFER. THAT'S REALLY WHY I CAME HERE — TO GET GOOD ENOUGH TO TURN PRO.
SERVING THE PUBLIC IS MY BACK-UP POSITION.
MINE, TOO.
HEY... IT'S HIM!
WHO?
KENNETH STARR— THE WHITEWATER PROSECUTOR AND FUTURE DEAN AT PEPPERDINE!
KENNETH WHO? WHAT'S WHITE-WATER? WHERE'S PEPPERDINE?
I'M GOING TO GET HIS AUTOGRAPH. YOU WANT ONE?
THANKS FOR THE JOHN HANCOCK, MR. STARR! I'M GOING TO HANG IT NEXT TO MY FRANK ZAPPA!
CLIK!
YOU BOYS LAW STU-DENTS?
NO, BUT WE'D LIKE TO BE! WHEN ARE YOU TAKING OVER?
NOT SURE. IT'S HARD TO FINISH UP WHITEWATER AND WORK OUT ALL MY CAREER GOALS AT THE SAME TIME.
HEY, IF ANYONE CAN HANDLE DUAL AGENDAS, IT'S YOU, SIR! YOU'RE THE MAN WHO SIMULTANE-OUSLY INVESTIGATED CLINTON WHILE REPRESENTING THE TOBACCO INDUSTRY! THAT WAS WAY AWESOME!
YEAH! LIKE RUBBING YOUR HEAD AND PAT-TING YOUR TUMMY!
STRONG ANALOGY, ZONK! YOU REALLY SHOULD GO TO LAW SCHOOL!
SO, JUDGE, YOU MUST BE PRETTY BUMMED ABOUT HAVING TO POST-PONE YOUR EXIT!
YOU MIGHT SAY THAT...
ONE MOMENT I'M ABOUT TO OCCUPY AN OFFICE WITH A DECK OVERLOOKING THE PA-CIFIC, THE NEXT MOMENT I'M BACK IN A LITTLE ROCK STORE-FRONT!
WELL, THAT'S THE THING ABOUT CALIFORNIA, SIR...
WHAT'S THAT?
CALIFORNIA'S A DREAM THAT'S ALWAYS JUST OUT OF REACH!
SO'S NAILING CLINTON. IT DIDN'T PREPARE ME.
GO DOONESBURY @ http://www.doonesbury.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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PICTURE RESEARCH: A great job for liberal arts graduates. Nina Whitney, a freelance picture researcher and art editor, will be on campus to discuss her career with students interested in considering the broader fields of art, publishing, teaching, editing, writing, photography, graphic arts and electronic publishing/CD Rom program development. Please sign up in advance at CP&P.

Murphy's Law

Kevin Murphy

You know that moment when you're falling asleep, right between consciousness and unconsciousness, when you get all those great ideas? Next, after you're through impressing yourself, you expand on that brief lucid moment, building even more brilliance into your initial thoughts, reinforcing your inspiration. Cut and polished, your creative genius gets the finishing touches as you develop your thoughts into something substantial — a finished product — then fall asleep and forget everything. That's what happened to Murphy's Law this week. So, while you read it, be sure to think about what it might have been…

Incidentally, the author feels it fit to mention here that this whole point thing has to stop. The last two of these columns have actually had a point, damnit! An argument, backed up by examples. This is a cancer!

So, rather than trying to put together anything remotely meaningful for this week's column, I would like to ramble a bit. I thought I'd begin by paying homage to two *Campus* fixtures, Jay Tandon and Sean Libby.

First off, Jay's column was a pressure valve for the paper. Readers burned out by the fierce mudslinging and muckraking of the vitriolic Opinions section could always flip to Slackin' with Jay for a bit of much-needed comic relief. If you would allow me to wax poetic devices for a moment — considering you're in the waxing mood (what the hell does it mean to wax, anyhow?) — I might compare the late column to that feeling you get when you sign your last honor code and walk out of the exam room in May. The rough stuff is behind you, two pages behind actually, and summertime is all that's ahead, at least for 600-800 words. Jay's column offered all of us a bit of an escape.

On a more personal, authorial level, it was an experience to have such an esteemed colleague as a co-columnist, because when mine sucked, everybody could just turn to Jay's column. Such brilliant ramblings as this will never see their match and are sorely missed, so I agree with Libby: come back Jay.

Lately, everything has been about bringing things back, like the seventies (see ML 2/19/97, or don't, it wasn't one of the greatest) and even the eighties, although that one is catching on a bit slower, as we all begin to remember what that decade was really like. Neil Diamond has been making a great big comeback here at Middlebury, and burns have come back and stayed back for four or so years — about as long as it took the author to grow his in (note the thick bushy pair). The long and

(see Murphy, page 13)

Foreman shares pressing environmental concerns

By Graham Balch
Staff Writer

David Foreman, the conservation director of the Wildlands project and well-known environmentalist, gave a talk in Ira Allen Chapel at the University of Vermont last night. In attendance for his presentation were a surprising number of Middlebury students, all of whom made the journey to see one of the legendary characters within the environmental movement.

It was unfortunate that most of the present students were environmental studies majors for Foreman shared his universally appealing beliefs: contagious love for the wilderness, fascination with the outdoors, and respect for all that is wild. According to Paul Woodsworth '99, Forman gave a "scientifically sound, educational, and inspiring presentation."

In his past, Foreman has not always been associated with the voice of reason. He started out in the more mainstream Sierra Club and Wilderness Society before taking a radical turn in the early eighties. Though some may not know his name, most people are familiar with some of the things he has inspired in his lifetime. About fifteen years ago, he founded Earth First!, a group that was glorified in the writings of Edward Abbey in the book The Monkey Wrench Gang.

Earth First! was the environmental group that unofficially and officially engaged in militant actions in defense of our forests and other wild habitats. These actions were manifested by doing things such as spiking trees and carrying out other activities that interfered with the ability of big timber companies to quietly clear-cut away our national forests. Earth First! did garner some negative attention for such activities as one might guess, but under Foreman's leadership, they did a great service by catapulting environmental issues into the national spotlight.

But it was a different Foreman we saw on Tuesday night. He is as committed to the environment as ever, but now he is using a different approach to foster humans' care for our planet. Replacing the spikes and sledgehammers as his tools of communication is his voice of impassioned reason. Some environmental problems can be corrected by changing our ways, but Foreman addressed one issue that this does not hold true for: extinction. Extinction is the permanent loss of species. We cannot mend our ways and bring back the Passenger Pigeon or any other animal that humanity has caused to become extinct.

Through the fossil record, scientists have been able to calculate the

(see Foreman, page 13)

Courtesy photo

Dave Forman concentrates his efforts to protect wildlife such as wolves.

Dakin Farm celebrates season of sap

By Justin Racz
Staff Writer

March ninth begins Dakin Farm's annual Sugar Festival, celebrating the season of the sap. Each weekend during March, this two hundred year-old farm in Ferrisburg (Route 7) cooks up a smorgasbord of smoked house meats, pancake breakfasts, live entertainment, and guest sap-boilers.

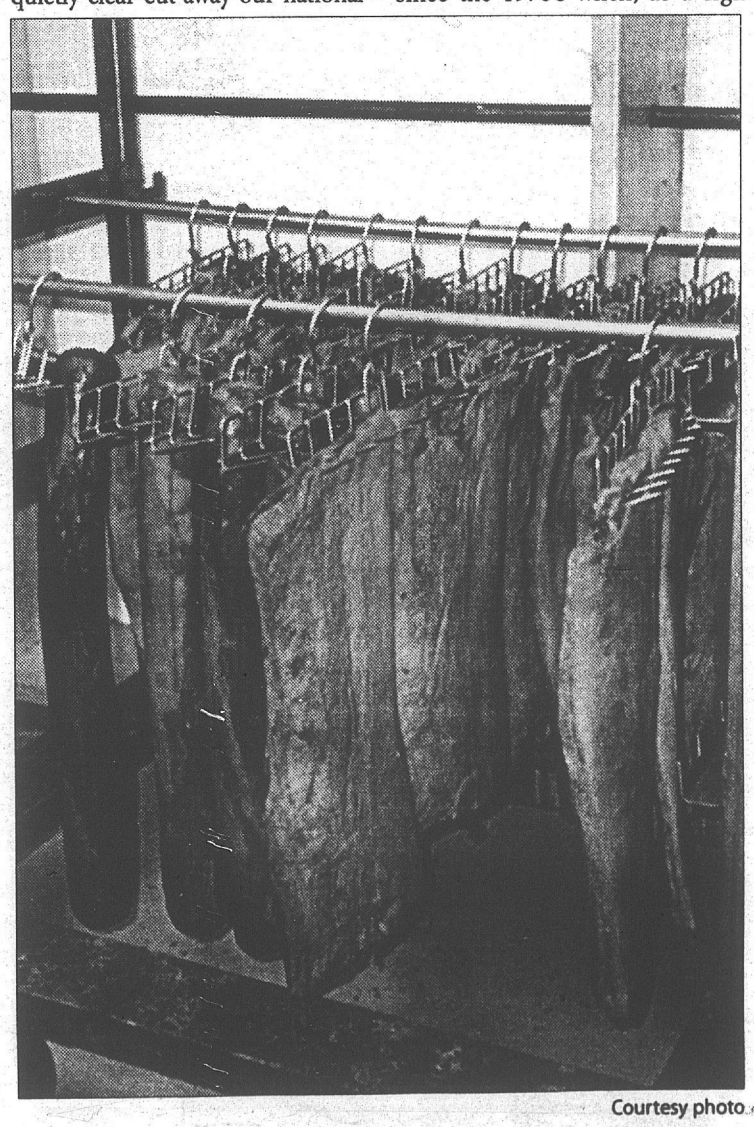
Drowning crushed ice with hot-off-the-sugarer maple syrup--the discipline formerly known as Sugar-on-Snow--, however, is not a Dakin's Farm invention. In fact, it has been a Vermont tradition since the 1970's when, as a sign points out at Dakin Farm, "there were more cows than people."

It was during these halcyon days of free-roaming bovine that Sam, Jr., son of Sam Cutter, the former owner of Dakin Farm, sat by a familiar maple tree, watching sap flow from tree to pail, and gave birth to the idea of the Sugar Festival. "It was my brainchild," said Sam, Jr. With the devout support of the entire Dakin Farm family, Sam has watched his baby grow for fifteen years. Each year, Sam and Sam can be seen behind butcher boards carving samplers of ham, smoked turkey, bacon and sausage. Sam, Jr. promises a selection of at least fifty products to give out to an expected large crowd of sugarites.

"They come from all over," Sam, Jr. says. "Boston, New York..., it's a real tradition." Once again, Banjo Dan and the Midnight Plowboys are expected to entertain. So is the legendary Vermont bluegrass band, Lost Possey. In addition to its aesthetic contribution, the music provides a rhythm that aids in the digestive process— your most valuable asset during the Sugar Festival.

A typical Saturday starts with the all-you-can-eat-and-pour

(see Dakin Farm,page 12)



Courtesy photo

Assorted meats, ranging from hams to turkeys, are smoked at Dakin Farm.

Discussion reveals chaos of creating new holidays

By David Enslee
Columnist

If a sociologist were interested in doing some sort of survey or study regarding the attitudes and views of students at Middlebury College, he would find his work much less challenging after a visit to one central place on campus: the Proctor Woodstove TV Lounge.

I tend to eat most of my meals in this location, not only because I find the regular dining halls unappetizingly hot and crowded, but also due to the entertaining rounds of debate that rattle about within its walls. As CNN blares at the head of the room, it often provides the impetus for many discussions. Yet on a particular day about a week ago, it was this very newspaper which served that purpose. As I devoured my fourth plate of curly fries, I overheard a young person of indeterminate race, nationality, religion and gender, who was reading the article written by Allen M. Cowett '99, which was in part a response to that of Shawn Marks '99 from a week before.

"What a load of hooey!" the mysterious diner proclaimed, to anyone willing to listen. "Everyone wants to have their own little holiday off. Well, I won't have any of it! Good Friday, Rosh Hashanah, Martin Luther King Day, Yom Kippur...what next?"

I diverted my attention from CNN, where they were detailing the scientific breakthrough of a cloned sheep, and turned my attention to the person now raving next to me. "Well," I said. "Perhaps these people just want to have the time off to...uhmm...reflect."

"Hogwash!" declared the diner. "All everyone wants is just another reason to skip classes. If things keep up with everyone getting their own holiday for their Grandma's birthday, then we're gonna still end up being in classes until August 11."

"That's my sister's birthday," I pointed out.

(see New Holidays, page 13)

Edgar Finds His Purpose

Story of passenger pigeons illustrates dangers of extinction

By Andy C. Smith
Columnist

On every day of the year, pigeons loft on roofs in Middlebury just as they do around the world. These birds, officially known as rock doves, are the same gregarious species which take over city park benches. A thirty-million year evolutionary success story, the rock dove is a surviving relative of the extinct passenger pigeon.

A mere century before the passenger pigeon's extinction in 1914, the species numbered more individuals than all other North American birds combined. Each flock comprised more than two billion birds. Naturalist John James Audubon once watched a flock take three days to fly over his house, reporting that the sky was "black with birds." Powerful breast muscles allowed each bird to fly at speeds of up to 60 mph.

Flocks of passenger pigeons flew high above the ground until large expanses of rich land were spotted, upon which the pigeons would descend and scour the earth for berries and seeds. The flocks' feeding frenzy followed a spectacular system which involved masses of pigeons rising up and flying over the dining ones in order to land in front of them. One man described the movement as "so continuous and uniform... that [it] presented the appearance of a rolling cylinder having a diameter of about 50 yards, its interior filled with flying leaves and grasses."

A mere century before the passenger pigeon's extinction in 1914, the species numbered more individuals than all other *North American birds* combined.

Passenger pigeons were slightly larger than rock doves. They had long tails, gray upper-parts, rusty-colored necks and breasts, and red eyes. Their native habitat covered northeastern America.

Nesting colonies of passenger pigeons occupied over two hundred square miles, with dozens of nests in each tree. Branches broke under their heavy weights, a characteristic which enabled them to breed and thrive in the wild. Passenger pigeons' tendency to travel and live in flocks turned out to be a key reason for the birds' downfall, as it made them easy hunting targets.

Native Americans relied on the passenger pigeons as a sure source of food; however, when the Europeans arrived in America, they over-exploited these birds.

Field Notes

The early American settlers netted the passenger pigeons in masses, smoked them out of trees with sulphur torches, and shot them with the precursors of modern machine guns. One hunting competition reportedly required 30,000 birds for a prize.

During the first half of the nineteenth century, the consumption of passenger pigeons played a central role in their extinction. Railroads enabled this species, whose meat was the cheapest available, to be shipped from the country to cities across the nation. In 1855, one New York merchant was reportedly selling 18,000 passenger pigeons a day. The whole bird was marketable, even its gizzards, blood, and dung.

The 1870s saw a massive decline in the number of passenger pigeons. Hunting and habitat loss had taken its toll. By 1880, the remaining birds were scattered in diffuse flocks around the country. Hunting was no longer profitable, and it eventually stopped. This sparse distribution that allowed the birds to evade hunters ironically interfered with the essential habit of large flocking. Their numbers continued to decline.

In 1896, the world's remaining 250,000 passenger pigeons came together as one last flock in Ohio. The newly erected telegraph lines sent out reports of the flock to hunters, who quickly killed 240,000 of the birds.

The Cincinnati Zoo kept breeding their few captive pairs, desperately trying to maintain a line of the species. In 1899, the Zoo publicly offered $1000 for a pair of live passenger pigeons. None were found. The last wild bird was reported in 1900. It was shot and is still on display in the Ohio State Museum.

By 1910, only one bird was alive. Martha, as she was called, was on display in the Cincinnati Zoo. She lived a long 29 years, until her death at 1 p.m. on September 1, 1914. Martha's body is now exhibited in Washington D.C.'s Smithsonian Institute.

Audubon, who died in 1851, foretold the species' extinction: "When an individual is seen gliding through the woods and close to the observer, it passes like a thought, and on trying to see it again, the eye searches in vain; the bird is gone."

One of the species' cousins — the rock dove — still lives today all over the world. Its numbers in Vermont are steadily increasing; we see them every day on campus. Let the rock doves serve as a reminder that it only took one generation to exterminate the passenger pigeon.

Courtesy photo

Martha, the last passenger pigeon, died in 1914 at the Cincinnati Zoo.

Dakin Farm celebrates season of sap

(continued from page 11)

pancake breakfast that includes smoked bacon and Vermont sausage. Unlike other all-you-can-eat deals featured by Denny's and Middlebury College's Dining Services, this one serves the finest meats Dakin can offer. Moving on in the day, one comes to Sugar-on-Snow, where "new syrup is poured on vanilla ice cream." Rachel Apple '99.5, a resident of Montpelier and Sugar-on-Snow guru, said that seasoned veterans of this festival put pickles on their snow because the syrup is so sweet.

Between meals, Dakin Farm offers walking tours to see tradition in action. Walk into the Sugar House and see forty gallons of sap channel through a thin copper pipe into a boiling back pan, then trickle into the front pan where it sits and simmers at 219 degrees. When Brian, a boil-master, thinks the sugar is the right density, he turns a bronze tap, and tastes the sugar. This process makes one gallon of maple sugar. On a good day, a three-person boiler-maker team can produce six hundred gallons of maple sugar. In turn, a six-person container team can package 3000 jugs a day.

Past the hand-waxing station, around the corner of the spiral meat slicers, is an unmarked chamber in which two silver monoliths hum back and forth. This is the smoke room. A few men dressed in official white uniforms operate different stations of the smoke lab.

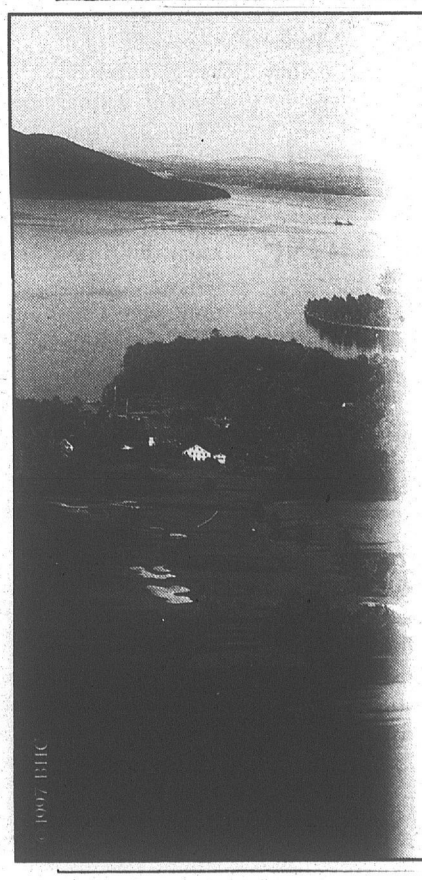
One man layers the multi-racked carts with either seven pound pork bellies, hams, link sausage, turkey, or cheese. When the carts reach their eight hundred pound capacity, they are wheeled into the smoker. Another man reads the switchboard of dials and meters which registers the temperature, density and humidity of the smoke box. Each meat is cooked in stages. Turkey breast, for example, must be cooked at four different temperatures: 140, 150, 160 degrees, and cool. Hams, on the other hand, can be cooked at a steady 148 degrees. "The smoky taste, "said Brian, the Smoke Master General, "comes from ground corn cob that trickles down to a seven hundred degree hot-plate and smolders into the smoker."

At the final station, the products are packaged by the Cryovak vacuum. Hermetically sealed, these Dakin Farm products can last forty days in the freezer without losing their freshness. This window of freshness is what enables Dakin Farm to ship its products anywhere in the United States at a phone call's notice. "We ship 30,000 parcels throughout the year; 20,000 just in December" said Sam, Jr. "That's good business for Vermont."

In addition to mail-order, Dakin Fm runs a lively retail business in Ferrisburg, where one doesn't have to wait for the Sugar Festival in order to enjoy Vermont cuisine.

Stop in for some Landjagger, a pepperoni that's "like Beef Jerky but Meatier." Try Piccalilli or Watermelon Pickle relish. Or, you can even try fresh Amaretto chocolate swirl fudge.

If one is so inspired by the Sugar House, there is even a how-to-tap a maple tree kit; power tapper not included. You can rent it for twenty-five dollars a day.



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New holidays create chaotic schedule

(continued from page 11)

"See!" the diner shouted. "My point has been proven! Every day is something important for someone. Pretty soon, everyone's gonna be staying home every day to 'reflect' on whatever special thing they've imagined that day to be."

I nodded politely and turned my attention back to CNN. Apparently, I'd hit the jackpot today in the nuthouse department.

"Listen to what this guy says here," the diner went on; oblivious to the fact that I was no longer paying attention. "He paints a picture of people going crazy and storming the Bastille of Old Chapel if they aren't given their holiday off to celebrate."

"Well," I interrupted. "He was referring to a lot more than just the holiday—"

"If that happens,"— the diner cut me off—"then sooner or later EVERYONE's gonna be storming Old Chapel with their demands." The diner took a long swig of Crystal Light fruit drink and went on. "Think about it, some dingaling history nut has it dawn on him that we don't get President's Day off, gathers up all his buddies in the History Department, and pretty soon you've got hundreds of guys wearing stovepipe hats and wielding cherry-tree axes— all demanding that Middlebury College recognize their holiday. I can hear the rallying cry now, 'I cannot tell a lie! We deserve President's Day off!'"

I stared at the diner for a few moments in silence. Any response would have been futile. I allowed the person sitting next to me to continue.

"And then," the diner went on. "The whole thing snowballs. On Monday, you have a whole bunch of Irish people decked out in green and waving shamrocks, telling the administration that they can kiss their collective blarney stones if they aren't given St. Patrick's Day off. Then on Tuesday, the brokenhearted, throwing heart-shaped boxes of chocolates at President McCardell, demand a day of mourning on February 14. Then, the next day, you get the crunchy environmental folks. They're always looking for a fight, you know. Well, they get up there with their clotheslines tied in nooses, demanding college recognition of Arbor Day."

"Arbor Day?" I asked in disbelief. "No one considers that a holiday."

"Hey, they made a Charlie Brown special about it," the diner said. "So it qualifies as a holiday in my book."

"You know what," I said staring at CNN. "I think I'm gonna clone my little cat Harvi."

"What next?" the diner continued, ignoring my attempt to change the subject. "Will the politically incorrect storm Old Chapel, demanding that we get time off for Columbus Day?"

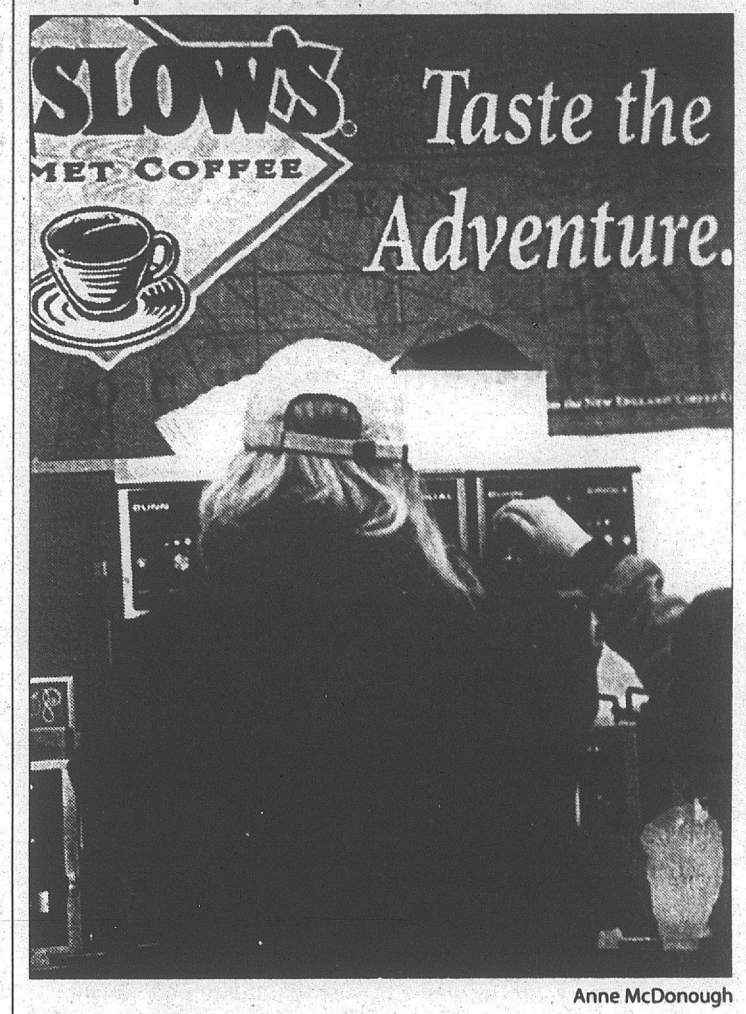
"Because, you see," I went on, wishing to draw the conversation to a halt. "It's so rare that anyone finds that perfect cat. And that's Harvi. When she gets real old, I'll have her cloned. Then I'll have as many Harvis as I need for the rest of my life."

"I can see them now," the diner babbled on. "Standing outside of Old Chapel, dressed in genuine fur coats, waving their arms and doing the Atlanta Braves tomahawk chop, shouting 'the politically insensitive have feelings too!'"

"Yep," I said, grabbing my tray and making a hasty retreat. "I'm gonna get myself a clone of the perfect little cat."

"Clones!" the diner screamed. "What a lot of nonsense. Next thing we know they'll be demanding their own holidays too. I can see it now; 40 identical people, standing in front of Dean Hanson's house..."

Wake up to flavored coffee!



Anne McDonough

Winslow's Gourmet Coffee *is the latest addition in the dining halls. Students can enjoy flavors such as french vanilla, mocha and hazlenut.*

Murphy waxes poetic to fill his weekly word quota

(continued from page 11)

the short of it is this...

Which is a nice segue into the second part of this article. Sean Libby, in a recent article, was able to extol the virtues of Jay in a manner that puts my own efforts to shame. So, in effect, I wish to pay tribute to his paying tribute. Maybe somebody will pay tribute to this. Maybe somebody will, in turn, pay tribute to that. Maybe it will become like chain mail, only never go around the world. Maybe not. Anyhow, Libby's column not only honored Jay's in a manner altogether fitting, but was entirely random. It was a good read as well. True to the behalf of its honoree, this passage rambled and slacked, and kept the reader laughing. At least I hope it kept the reader laughing.

Why pile up all this praise? Why? Why not? Why did I get carded for a Scorpion Bowl at the Panda House? The Panda House! Its a sad day when I can't get served there. Why do people spray paint the Frisbee Dog's balls? Why? I don't know. For starters, Libby might need a bit of a pick-me-up after catching hell over that whole prostitution thing. Here we go again in the Opinions! That's all I've got say about that. Keep me out of the middle, I'm just a features columnist. Maybe if I pile it on thick, we'll get Jay back and Libby over here in Features. After all, we need more columnists; this word count thing is getting out of hand. Sorry, that sounded like a point.

...Sean Libby in a recent article, was able to extol the virtues of Jay in a manner that puts my own efforts to shame. So, in effect, I wish to pay tribute to his paying tribute.

Foreman delivers environmental lecture

(continued from page 11)

extinction rate on Earth for the past 500 million years. In that time there have been five great extinction periods, the most recent of these occurring 65 million years ago, with the dramatized extinction of the dinosaurs. Prophetically, Foreman informs us that we are experiencing and, even worse, causing the 6th great extinction period. The current extinction rate is over 1000 times the background rate of the past few hundred million years and even higher than it was 65 million years ago, when the dinosaurs vanished.

Fortunately, Foreman went beyond informing us about the problems of extinction and presented a method to prevent further anthropocentrically caused species loss. From studying island populations, biologists have been able to deduce that smaller and more isolated islands experience greater rates of species decline or "faunal relaxation."

It has been found that surprisingly similar patterns are observed in inland islands. Today, untouched wilderness is no longer prevalent. All we have left is that which is protected in parks and wilderness areas. The larger and closer protected areas are, the greater species diversity they will be able to sustain. Thus, Foreman tells us that it would be better to have fewer large areas than many small, fragmented areas so that complete ecosystems are preserved.

An example Dave Foreman gave of protected areas being too small is that of Yellowstone National Park. Though it is our largest national park in the continental United States, it is on a high plateau so the Bison residing there seek wintering grounds at lower elevation. This brings them across the state border, into Montana, where the "idiot governor doesn't understand island geography" and has hunters kill the Bison by the hundreds. We have to shape legal boundaries to encompass ecosystems so protection of biodiversity is not haphazard.

In protected areas that are too small, it is the megafauna such as grizzlies, wolves, and cougars that disappear first. The loss of these species has an impact beyond their own extinction. The absence of cougars in one area can produce a significant decline of migratory birds in that area and consequently, throughout the United States. It is not because cougars themselves dine on migratory birds that their numbers decline. Rather, it is because the mesopredators or medium sized predators, such as raccoons and possums, increase in number when unchecked by predatory pressures. When more raccoons are around to eat song bird eggs, these bird populations decline, sadly quieting the forests throughout their range.

Nature, in the end, is interconnected. In fact, nature is probably the only place where Reagan's "trickle down theory" has any relevance in that all of our affects on nature have negative repercussions. The solution is for humanity to set aside large interconnected ecological reserves so that all species can survive.

Concluding the lecture, Dave Foreman howled to the wolves. All in the audience joined him at his beckoning. Can you hear them? They are returning.

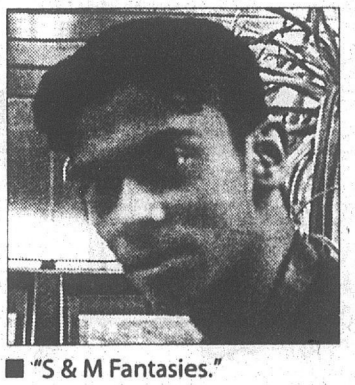
CAMPUS VOICES

If you had a talk show on WRMC what would it be called?

■ "Who Got a Job!"
— Henock Gebreamlak '97

■ "Drinking Parties on Campus."
— Susan Ho '98

■ "The John Mac and Leibeeweebee Show."
—Suzanne Minott '99

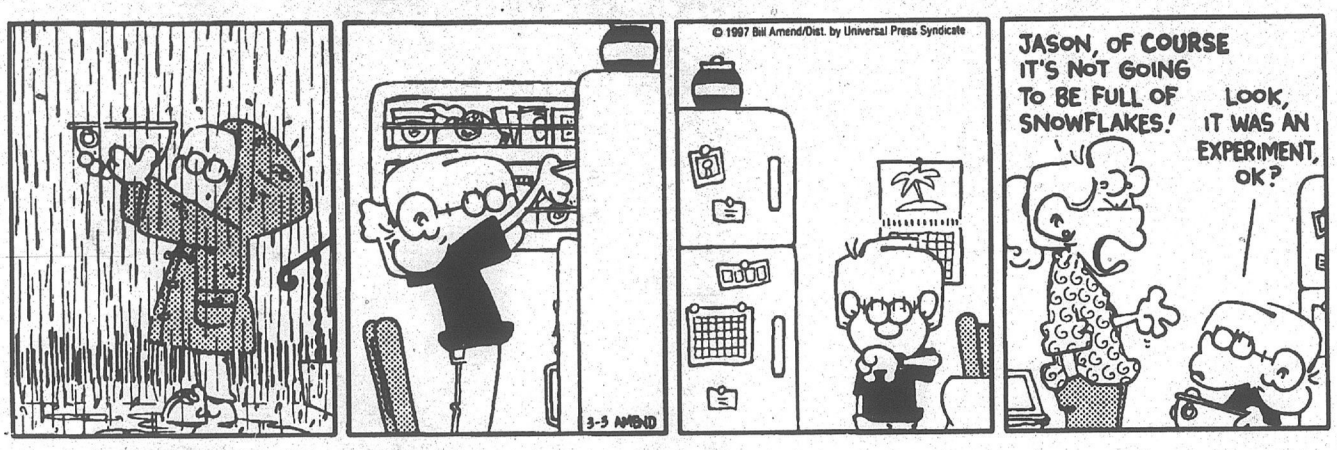


■ "S & M Fantasies."
— Sagheer Faiz '97

Compiled by Sherry Schwarz

Photos by Anne McDonough

FoxTrot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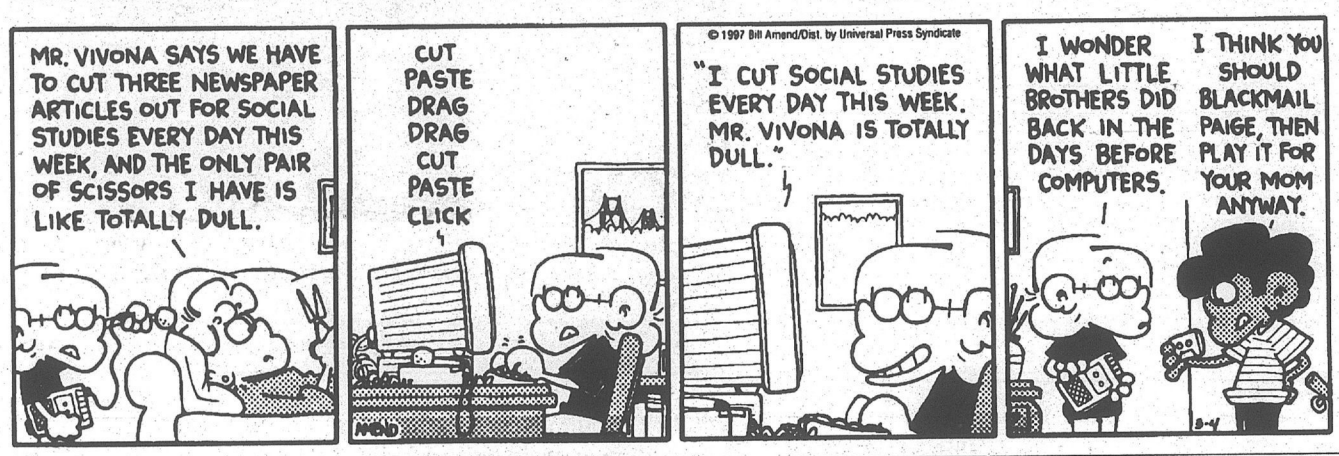
JASON, OF COURSE IT'S NOT GOING TO BE FULL OF SNOWFLAKES!
LOOK, IT WAS AN EXPERIMENT, OK?
3-5 AMEND


MR. VIVONA SAYS WE HAVE TO CUT THREE NEWSPAPER ARTICLES OUT FOR SOCIAL STUDIES EVERY DAY THIS WEEK, AND THE ONLY PAIR OF SCISSORS I HAVE IS LIKE TOTALLY DULL.
CUT PASTE DRAG DRAG CUT PASTE CLICK
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"I CUT SOCIAL STUDIES EVERY DAY THIS WEEK. MR. VIVONA IS TOTALLY DULL."
I WONDER WHAT LITTLE BROTHERS DID BACK IN THE DAYS BEFORE COMPUTERS.
I THINK YOU SHOULD BLACKMAIL PAIGE, THEN PLAY IT FOR YOUR MOM ANYWAY.
3-4

I'VE DECIDED TO TAKE UP GOLF.
OH?
TIGER WOODS WENT FROM CLUB-SWINGING INFANT TO SUPERSTAR PRO IN JUST 20 YEARS, SO IF I START NOW, I FIGURE I'LL BE RAKING IN THE MILLIONS SOMETIME AROUND AGE 36. IT'S A WAIT, BUT I CAN LIVE WITH THAT.
3-5
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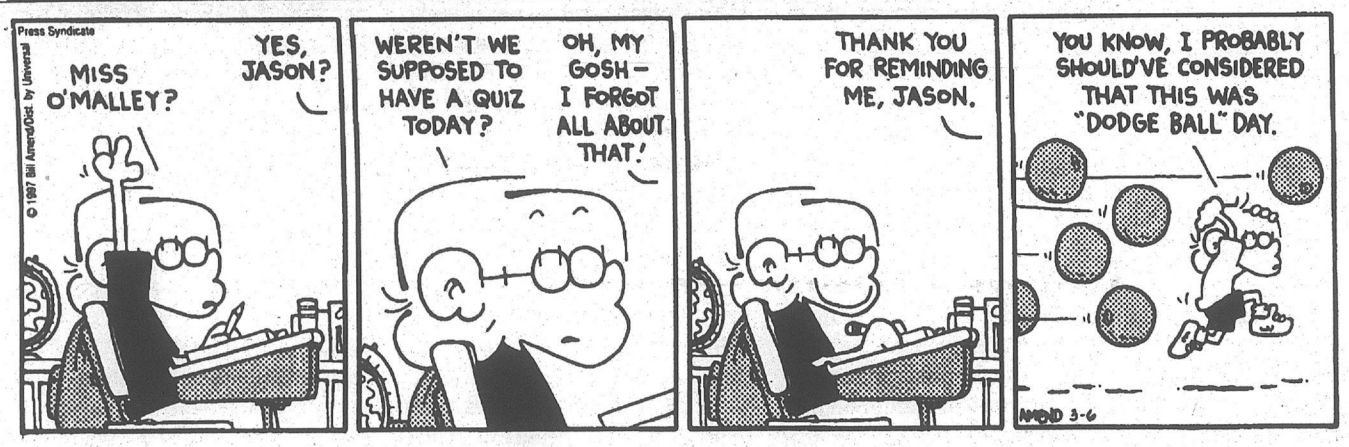
MIND IF I PRACTICE MY PUTTING IN HERE?
BUT CAN WE LIVE WITH YOU?!
WHOOPS. SORRY. WRONG CLUB.
ZING.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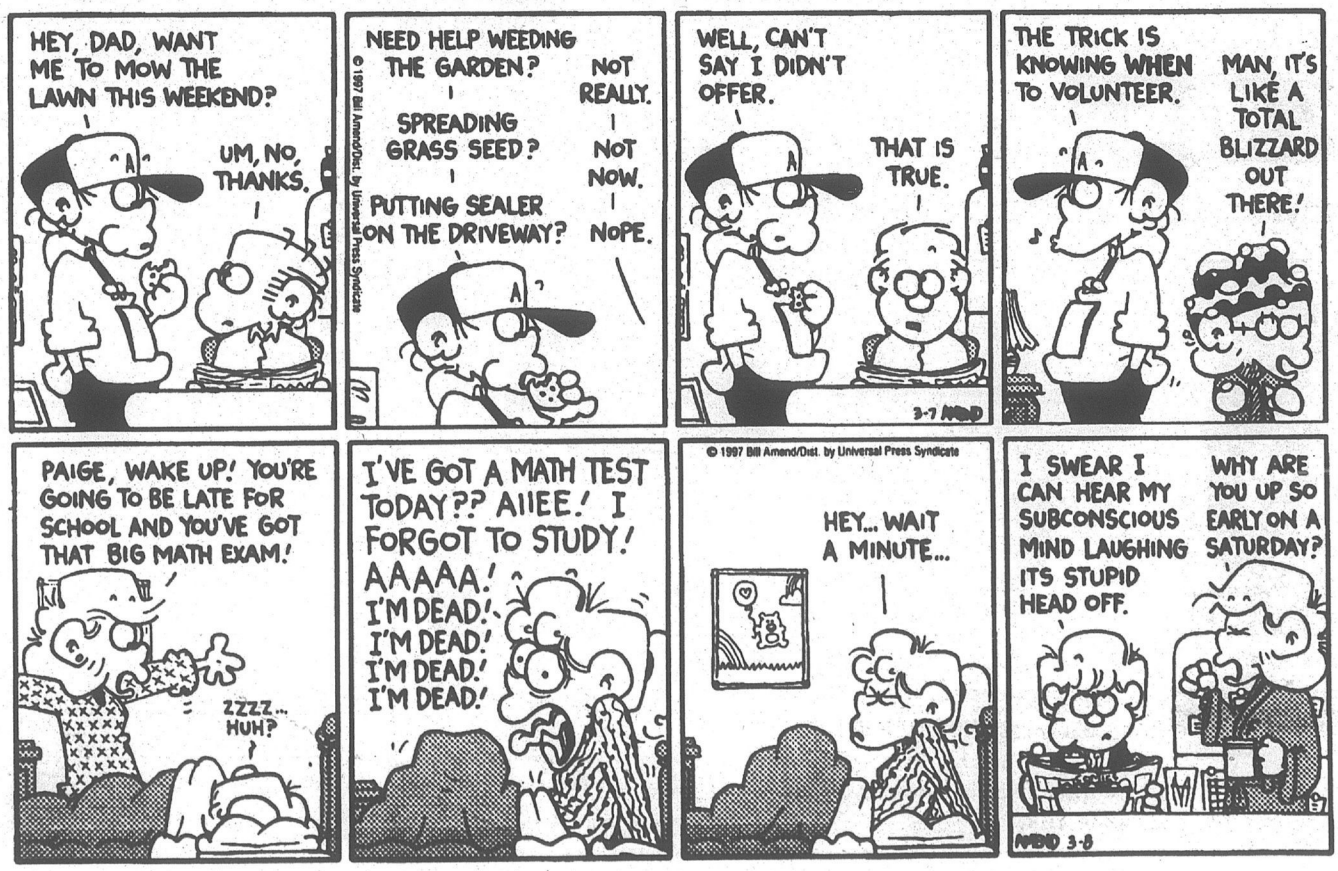
MISS O'MALLEY?
YES, JASON?
WEREN'T WE SUPPOSED TO HAVE A QUIZ TODAY?
OH, MY GOSH – I FORGOT ALL ABOUT THAT!
THANK YOU FOR REMINDING ME, JASON.
YOU KNOW, I PROBABLY SHOULD'VE CONSIDERED THAT THIS WAS "DODGE BALL" DAY.
AMEND 3-6


HEY, DAD, WANT ME TO MOW THE LAWN THIS WEEKEND?
UM, NO, THANKS.
NEED HELP WEEDING THE GARDEN?
NOT REALLY.
SPREADING GRASS SEED?
NOT NOW.
PUTTING SEALER ON THE DRIVEWAY?
NOPE.
© 1997 Bill Amend/Dist. by Universal Press Syndicate
WELL, CAN'T SAY I DIDN'T OFFER.
THAT IS TRUE.
3-7 AMEND
THE TRICK IS KNOWING WHEN TO VOLUNTEER.
MAN, IT'S LIKE A TOTAL BLIZZARD OUT THERE!
PAIGE, WAKE UP! YOU'RE GOING TO BE LATE FOR SCHOOL AND YOU'VE GOT THAT BIG MATH EXAM!
ZZZZ... HUH?
I'VE GOT A MATH TEST TODAY?? AIIEE! I FORGOT TO STUDY! AAAAA! I'M DEAD! I'M DEAD! I'M DEAD! I'M DEAD!
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HEY... WAIT A MINUTE...
I SWEAR I CAN HEAR MY SUBCONSCIOUS MIND LAUGHING ITS STUPID HEAD OFF.
WHY ARE YOU UP SO EARLY ON A SATURDAY?
AMEND 3-8

CLASSIFIEDS

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OVERHEARD

"Your horoscope says your lovelife is going to be firm in 1997."

"Ooh…how firm?"

-Two *Cosmo* worshippers

"I regret doing it–I just wish more had come out of it."

-Reflection of a MiddParis student

"If I beat this long enough it'll get all frothy and fill the whole bowl."

-Hungry sophomore in Upper Procter

"Hey, how many times have you not gone where I wanted you to go because you were lying in bed half-naked?"

-Short guy/little coat offering money for services rendered by Skanky Pimp

"The advisor-advisee relationship is protected by something like attorney-client privilege–except in this case it's the client who protects the attorney."

-outside Warner Hemicycle

Students frolic to Gordon Stone Trio

Sarah de Guzman
Staff Writer

Students gathered into a jam-packed Gamut Room last Thursday to unwind their minds and bodies to the upbeat tunes of the Burlington-based Gordon Stone Trio.

The musical ensemble — composed of musicians Andy Cotton on bass, Doug Perkins on guitar and Gordon Stone on banjo — provided almost two hours of numbers rendering reggae, Latin, world-beat, funk and bluegrass influences. "Integrative" best captures the quality and character of sound the trio enlivened and entertained listeners with — a sound not to be pinned down or confined to a specific label.

Gordon, the proprietor of the trio, has been playing for over 20 years, composing work alongside such Middlebury musical deities as Phish. The trio itself has been around for close to two years.

The trio cranked out "Southwind "to begin the evening. The musicians systematically plucked away at their strings, manipulating the tempos, weaving chords of sound that weakened, strengthened, and faded into yet newer ones. Interspersed pauses introduced solo material where a certain musician would begin jamming on his instrument and later be rejoined by his counterparts. Such moments kept students watching and listening intently in curious anticipation of what would emerge next. The trio continued to play their newest tunes, or what they called "virgin material" — "Half Creek" and "Monkey Wrench" followed by "Some Funky Grass." The latter particularly stirred listeners as sharp banjo and guitar motions diluted by bass perpetuated a rhythm which jumped in tempo and then smoothed out. "Sunday Drive" had to be the most absorbing number, as listeners irresistably became involved in its frolicking and playful flares.

The story of the "Sunday Drive" unraveled as the trio's fingers rapidly brushed against the strings, in and out of the parallel grooves of their instruments, and up and down their lengths.

Images of a picturesque landscape from the driver's side were evoked: the stretch of an open road ahead, mountains curving in and out of the horizon. The quality of the piece also conjured empowering feelings of youthful vitality, like the exhilaration in flooring the gas pedal and bypassing car after car, as well as the unmistakable blow of the wind sweeping your hair back.

While more coffee was ordered, and small talk exchanged, the musicians' instrumental pieces continued to permeate the air with stories and tales evoking escape

(see Gordon Stone, page 18)

Anthony D'Avella

The Gordon Stone Trio performed last Thursday in the Gamut Room.

Bertolini's discuss 'Sense and Sensibility' in novel and film form

By Sreemati Mitter
Staff Writer

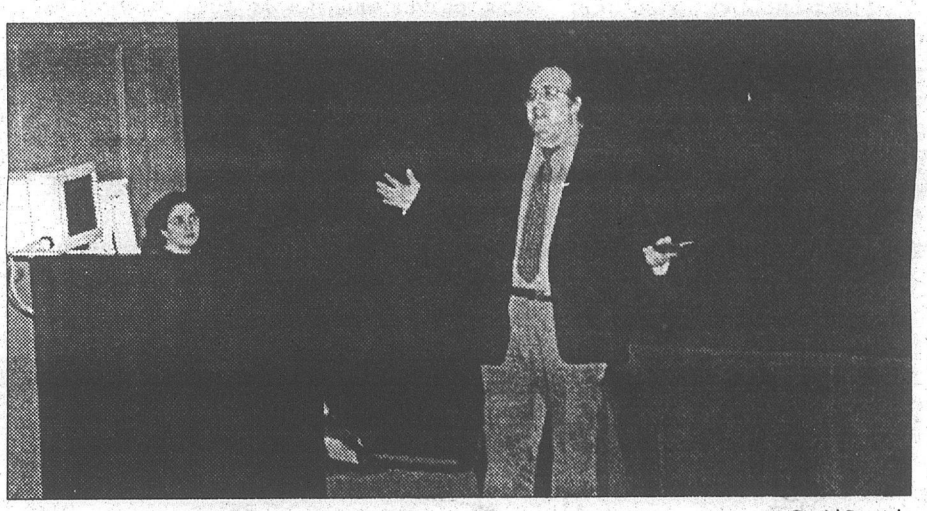
John and Mary Ellen Bertolini hosted a talk together this Monday on the film "Sense and Sensibility," Ang Lee's celebrated adaptation of Jane Austen's novel (which was screened in Dana this Saturday). Mr. Bertolini, ever the performer, held the audience in thrall while he devoted his boundless energies to the film, speaking with his usual inimitable humor and infectious passion; his wife, more sedate, spoke with quiet and intelligent insight, focusing primarily on the differences between the novel and the film.

Mr. Bertolini stressed that the three most important characteristics of the film — "restraint, repression and understatement" — were fundamental to its effectiveness. Emma Thompson's sensitive portrayal of Elinor Dashwood, one of Austen's most unforgettable heroines, with all her "restraint" and "emotional starvation," conveyed effectively the importance given by her to "sense," and the turmoil of suppressed emotion within her soul. Thompson, Mr. Bertolini said, keeps her character's emotions constantly in harness, never allowing them to break loose except for the one, gloriously happy moment near the end, where she weeps uncontrollably upon discovering that the doors leading to love and happiness have not, after all, been barred to her forever.

To illustrate his point, Mr. Bertolini chose to show some of the more dramatic moments of the film, which, he claimed, have all been shot with the utmost "chastity" and "understatement." The most horrifying of revelations, the most agonizing of heartaches, have all been conveyed through harsh yet subdued whispers. The lower the tone, the more powerful the emotions being conveyed. Every element in the "dramatic" scenes tries to suppress the emotion and passion that the audience unconsciously looks for, thus distancing the viewer, so that when the passionate outburst does finally find expression in the end, the effect is profoundly moving.

In contrast to Elinor, the epitome of this understated emotionlessness, is her blooming, passionate younger sister. Marianne is shown to be full of the "sensibility" her older sister so determinedly keeps locked in. For her there are dashing, mysterious young men on white horses riding through the storm to rescue her and carry her off to safety in their strong arms. For her there are mists and tears and Shakespearean sonnets and heartaches, whereas for Elinor there can only be pragmatism and

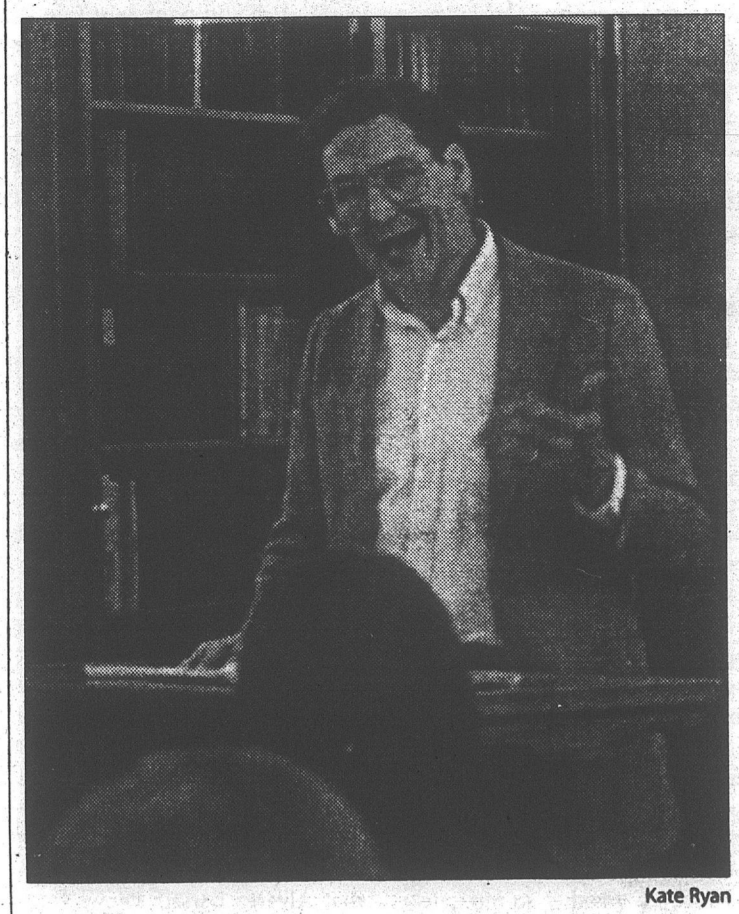
(see "talk", page 18)



David Barreda

Mr. and Mrs. Bertolini discussed Austen's "Sense and Sensibility" on Monday, March 3.

"Sight for Sore Eyes" now in print



Kate Ryan

Professor Mitchell gave a talk on Wednesday, February 27, on his new book titled "Sight for Sore Eyes."

Lubar illuminates ideals of von Maltzan

Maciej Ceglowski
Staff Writer

The posters advertising "You do What You Do — a particular state of mind" depicted a stern and intimidating older woman glaring out over a half-smoked cigarillo. It was therefore a delight to discover this one-woman show, featuring Deborah Lubar as the incomparable Countess Maria von Maltzan, to be full of sharp humor and joy despite its difficult and sensitive subject matter. Marianne Lust wrote and directed the show after a long period of fascination with von Maltzan, a member of the German resistance against Hitler. Von Maltzan, a great lover of life now in her eighties, drew away from her aristocratic roots early on in life in order to become a veterinarian. Opposed to the Nazi ideology from her first reading of "Mein Kampf," she devoted much of her energy before and during the war to helping Jews and other "undesirables," always at great personal risk.

The show, a 90-minute introduction to the Countess and her life, is based on extensive reading and several personal meetings between Lust, Lubar and an initially skeptical von Maltzan, a veteran of several mangled attempts to tell her story.

A quick summary of the plot does not do justice to the subtlety of the piece. The Countess is portrayed in her Berlin flat at the age of 80. A demonstration is taking place in front of her house: Turkish protesters are being harassed by the police, whom the Countess does not hesitate to call fascists through her window.

It was a delight to discover this one woman show, featuring Deborah Lubar as the incomparable Maria von Maltzan, to be full of sharp humor and joy despite its difficult and sensitive subject matter.

An oily journalist has come by to interview the Countess, who had appeared on television the night before, but the contentious interview is cut short by the arrival a young punk couple via the window. They are terribly upset after four days spent on the site of the Sachsenhausen concentration camp and have sought out the Countess "to find hope." She scolds and feeds them; the impatient journalist leaves in a huff, and a visiting friend arrives to take her place. Time passes, and the youths, somewhat heartened, have to leave to catch a plane, so the Countess leaves with them in order to confront the increasingly belligerent police making trouble outside.

This simple plot serves as an armature for a great woven mass of stories and reminiscences that constitute the bulk of von Maltzan's monologue. Some of these stories concern her family, others are humorous and offbeat, while still others are deadly serious, often horrifying. The various threads all come together to give a coherent whole. Von Maltzan's life

(see 'You do,' page 18)

Alvarez discusses her writing and cross-cultural experiences

By Juan Marroquín
Staff Writer

Marroquín: For those of us who haven't read "¡Yo!", what is "¡Yo!" about?

Julia Alvarez: "¡Yo!" is the story, for those who read "How the García Girls Lost Their Accent" it's the Yolanda character, and "¡Yo!" is the story of the making of a writer. I wasn't interested in the traditional artist-centered story of the making of an artist, which is the traditional story that we all have read — "A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man," "The Prelude" by Wordsworth, Byron's "Childe Harold." Always, it's been in Western tradition, the story of the artist as a special human being, much more creative and sensitive than the rest of us, that it's from their point of view … And, you know, they have to leave Ireland or they have to leave behind the Philistines who don't understand their sensitive souls. Well, I was interested in telling the story from a slightly different point of view, the point of view of someone who doesn't generally get to tell the story, which is the people in an artist's life — the family, the friends, their teachers, strangers who meet them — people who have had to endure this creative being. What would be their story if we got their point of view for once? So I was interested in taking the point of view away from the hierarchical aristocrat, the artist — at least in the literary world the aristocrat is the artist. And giving it to the people who would tell you, "I don't know how to tell a story. Yo no soy poeta. I don't know anything about literature." But the point is that they all turn out to be great storytellers, because I think that that's also part of what I wanted to do with "¡Yo!," to show that storytelling is a very democratic activity. It's the way we all put together the events of our lives to understand who we are and where we came from, you know. My sister is a therapist. Therapist is the wrong term, a counselor in Boston for refugees that have come from third world, mostly Latin American countries and have suffered, you know, things like their village being burned or families being slaughtered, and she says that she knows that they're going to start to get better, that they're gonna heal from this trauma when they can tell the story of what happened to them.

M: So why is the title of the book "¡Yo!" [I] and not "¡Nosotros!" [We]?

A: Because "yo" is "nosotros." That's the first person pronoun, "yo." ["Now I am going to tell you the story of Yolanda. Now I…"] each one is a "yo." But it's also about "yo, Yolanda," the hole in the donut at the center. But it's also "yo" like in "Yo, yo, yo!," you know, like a greeting, "Come on!," you know, "How you doin'?," an all-purpose greeting, an all-purpose welcome to everybody to come and tell the story. So it's working on many levels, you know, that "yo" could be each of the yo's, not necessarily Yolanda. But that's a good point.

M: Did coming to the United States make you reflect on how the self and the community interact in our everyday lives?

A: Well certainly, you know, people ask me where did the structure of "¡Yo!" come from in part and why I often use many points of view. And I thought a lot about that. I have many answers in retrospect, you know, you don't think this way when you're writing.

But I think one of the things that was very strong for me in terms of the way I go through experience is … in my original Latino culture I was not individual. I was part of una familia and una comunidad. My name I shared with three other cousins, with two aunts, with mi tatarabuela — they were all named Julia Alvarez. Even my nose, you know, came from Tía [aunt] Patia, and my eyes, I was part of a group, so I, early on, you know, I lived with all my cousins and extended family, early on, I experienced reality through multiple lenses. And I think that that … I think another influence is being a woman, because women are encouraged, especially in Latino culture, to be relational, to think about [the whole world in terms of family], that we're in charge of the social fabric in that way, of weaving it.

So the idea of multiple points of view is both, for me, very much part of being raised a woman and a Latina. And I think the other thing is that it is much more a people culture, you know. I grew up without books. The experience of reading, of doing something so antisocial as to separate yourself from a group and go read by yourself, people still, if I go and I'm staying with my tía and I'm over there reading a book of prose, she comes and says, ["What's going on with you? Are you sad?"].

We're all storytellers, it's not that we don't have our literature, but it's not separate literature. I mean, the challenge in the United States, in North America, in America as they say, is, you know, "Song of Myself," Walt Whitman, "I am. I make who I am. I make this identity." That's different from what I grew up with.

M: How old were you, when you first came to America?

A: 10 years old.

M: So in the time that you have been in the United States, how have you learned to deal with this new sense of self, with the self who is not reflected throughout the community. Have you learned to negotiate it with the Hispanic values?

A: Yeah, as I just wrote [to a friend in Santo Domingo]. I was telling her "I'm going on this tour," and I said, "I'm fed up with it. I'm so tired. Everywhere I go I have to pretend I am being asked questions that I have never been asked before," and I said, "actually my training as a Dominicana really prepares me with that [because I was always made to be very agreeable, accommodating, and easy to get along with. But as an adult here in this country, as a gringa, what's stupid and inefficient has always bothered me] … I don't have any patience with it. [The whole time I'm working on a book, from moment to moment I don't know who will win out, the gringa or the Dominicana]. I have this interior conflict often. When I've been inside one culture for a while, I just take up the rhythm and go with it. What's hard is the in-between times.

M: [So tell us, girl, what do you do?]

A: How did I learn to negotiate it? I believe my writing is what helped me; it's a way to maintain connection, not just with the past, but with experience, it gets remade, recast. But you connect with it and deepen your connection with what goes on in your life. That definitely is a way that I learned to negotiate. I realized early on that language was power when I came to this country. I didn't know much English. I had a bad accent. People made fun of me … it's what made me interested in language. I wouldn't have become a writer unless I had come to this country. I listened to how people spoke and why they used one word instead of another. Everybody has to do that, even with their own language, but they do it later when they're learning a craft. I was doing it as a 10-year old. And I realized that if you explained yourself well, especially on paper — it was easier for me on paper because in English speaking I still had the accent, I would get scared in front of people and not say what I really mean — but in the solitude and silence of being able to compose myself on paper I could say what I wanted and get my point across.

I learned that that was powerful, that that was, you know, the story of Scheherazade of the "Arabian Nights." She's the woman that is going to be murdered, and the sultan has her in the court, and she tells him a story — for a thousand and one nights she tells a story, ends it, starts a new one as the sun is coming up, cause his style is to rape the women and then the next morning kill them.

And she starts a new story just before dawn is coming up, so that she has to continue it the next day. And he is so mesmerized that he doesn't kill her. And at the end of a thousand and one nights he's fallen in love with her, and also repents of what he's been doing to the women. So she not only saves herself, she saves all the women in her kingdom. And changes the heart of the sultan.

It's an old story, but it's very meaningful to me because that's what writing can do, that's what the word can do. It's just not that it's power for you, a way to protect yourself, as I understood it as a little girl, but it's a way to change the sensibilities of people. They read, maybe they have their prejudices against some Afro-American family or against a Latino family, they read a book that moves them, they perceive those people in a different way.

Bracketed sections of this interview were translated from Spanish by Amanda Shoemaker.

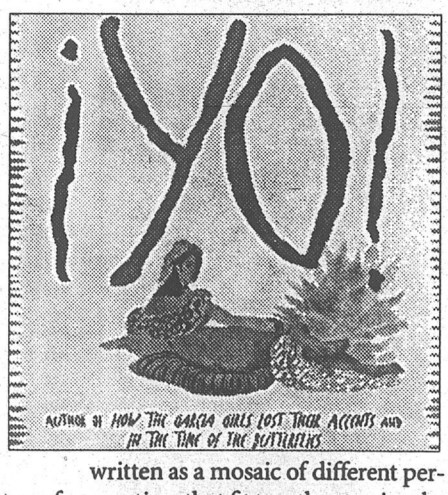
'¡Yo!' travels between cultures, classes

Maya Thiagarajan
Arts Editor

Book Review

¡Yo!
Julia Alvarez

Julia Alvarez's newest novel, "¡Yo!," is a work of art that travels between cultures and classes. It takes us back and forth from the small colorful islands of the Dominican Republic, where everyone knows each other, to the large, fast city of *Nueva* York, where people exist in anonymity. One sees life from the perspective of the island's servants, and then from the perspective of the rich and famous De la Torre family. The novel provides the reader with constant transitions between cultures and classes, and occasionally, characters get caught between cultures and classes.



"¡Yo!" weaves a rich tapestry of characters, bringing different experiences together in a powerfully moving fashion. Alvarez's insight into the diverse ways that humans think and feel, depending on circumstance and experience, is vividly portrayed throughout. Each chapter is told from the point of view of a different character, and each story revolves around the character's interaction with the writer, Yolanda García, also known as Yo.

In contrast to Alvarez's previous novel, "How the García Girls Lost Their Accents," which was told solely from Yo's point of view, her new novel allows all the people in Yo's life to tell their stories about her. We see Yo as she is perceived in a variety of roles: sister, best friend, employer, student, mentor, and finally daughter. Some of the narrators think of her as intense and beautiful, some as odd, some as selfish and some as loving and sensitive. The novel is written as a mosaic of different perspectives that fit together to give the reader a beautifully rounded and complex portrait of Yo.

Yo darts in and out of different worlds; she is eternally caught up in the island where "life is one big story," yet she is an independent and aggressive feminist representative of Western values and ideals. Apart from these two worlds, Yo creates yet another world out of memories and imagination, a world of fabrications woven together so intricately that she cannot quite distinguish them from her own reality.

Particularly touching are the stories set on the island, where Alvarez probes the relationship between classes in a third-world setting. The disparities between rich and poor, employers and servants, loom large and irreconcilable in each of the short chapters. The servants of the island live in mud huts and believe in age-old traditions that have no place whatsoever in the Westernized world. Rich and poor exist side by side on the island, living together yet completely isolated from each other. Perhaps the most poignant story of all is "The stranger," which shows how differently the minds of the poorer, illiterate islanders work from that of the richer, more Westernized Yo.

Throughout the novel, Alvarez's writing flows "as if language were a stream filled with silver fish flashing in water." Though light-hearted and casual on the surface, her writing brings to life very deep differences and ways of thinking that exist between cultures and classes. It questions traditions and stereotypes, yet it offers no judgments.

In the chapter "The student," one of Yo's writing students describes how she urges him to write about his own personal experiences. One begins to wonder, is Alvarez really writing an autobiography here? How fictional is the character of Yolanda García after all? The feeling and insight that Alvarez offers her readers derive their richness from what Alvarez herself knows from experience. Through "Yo," we see just what a writer can do when she "writes what she knows."

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4:00pm-11:00pm Sunday
Ask about our daily lunch specials

Austen's 'Sense and Sensibility' adapts well to the big screen

Andrea Yevuta
Staff Writer

Yes, a Jane Austen renaissance occurred last year, and yes, the entertainment media has seized upon this revival in order to squeeze every last drop of interest out of it. Media saturation can sometimes diminish the value of the work as the promotion and information generated by the film become more significant than the film itself. (See the re-release of "Star Wars" or any movie starring Jim Carrey.) Yet the many recent Austen movies, and the novels that inspired them, retain the qualities that have drawn readers and moviegoers alike for more than a century.

At heart, "Sense and Sensibility" is a love story, but like Austen's other works, it is also a study of class, money, and familial relationships carefully blended with a sharp wit. As its title would indicate, "Sense and Sensibility" is also about the differences between the movie's heroines, the Dashwood sisters. While the elder sister, Elinor (played by Emma Thompson), hides her emotions and is careful to manage the family's finances when they fall upon hard times after the death of their father, Marianne (Kate Winslet) reads Shakespearean sonnets and is swept away by a dashing stranger. According to Marianne, "Can love really be satisfied with such polite affections? To love is to burn." Such strong sentiment is contrasted with the more restrained manners of Elinor, who hopes that her sister "soon becomes acquainted with the ways of the world." Each sister must eventually realize that to find happiness in love, she must moderate her own views.

Although the Dashwood sisters of Austen's novel are in their teens, both Thompson and Winslet are considerably older. Nonetheless, they both perform admirably. Thompson has demonstrated again and again that she is one of the top actresses in Hollywood and she lives up to that distinction. Her writing talent also earned her an Academy Award for best adapted screenplay for "Sense and Sensibility." During the first half of the film, Winslet is breathy and excitable as Marianne, but she is also convincing during the latter part of the film as her character takes a darker turn after being rebuffed by a suitor, Willoughby (Greg Wise).

As is the case with many period dramas, the landscape plays an important supporting role. Director Ang Lee presents a mainly comic film, but there are unmistakably dark elements mirrored by the dreary, and sometimes violent, weather outside. Two of the most dramatic moments of the film come when Marianne must be rescued during a storm. It is a credit to the director that even a gray, rainy day in England can be romanticized.

Landscape aside, the film boasts an excellent supporting cast of actors, led by Hugh Grant and Alan Rickman. Grant is best as the stuttering, stammering Englishman who is unlucky at love, and as Edward Ferras, the man who captures Elinor's affections, he realizes his potential. When in a difficult situation, he manages to make the audience feel his discomfort as he twitches and grimaces. Far from Grant's comedic performance is Alan Rickman as Colonel Brandon, who befriends the Dashwood family and marries Marianne. Perhaps best known to American audiences as the Sheriff of Nottingham, Rickman's character is described by Willoughby as "the sort of man everyone speaks well of, but nobody talks to." Brandon is a wealthy, pleasant man, but is also a tortured soul due to a past love affair. Rickman's look as he watches Marianne, the woman with whom he is falling in love, dally with Willoughby, can only be described as tortured.

"Sense and Sensibility" is a beautiful film in which excellent acting, proficient direction, and a well-crafted story all work together. Although Hollywood's infatuation with Austen seems to have abated for the time being, it has yet to be seen whether its interest in the author's work will surge once again.

Arts Smarts

Lectures

Wednesday, March 5

4:15 p.m.
"Interrontron; Errol Morris and the Cinema of Forensics." Featuring Shawn Rosenheim.
Sponsored by the department of film/video studies and the American civilization program.
Twilight Auditorium 101

4:30 p.m.
Abernathy Series: "Literature at the End of the Century." Norman Manea of Bard College has written 20 books and received the National Jewish Book Award in 1992 for "On Clowns: The Dictator and the Artist."
Abernathy Room, Starr Library

Friday, March 7

11 a.m.
Festival of the Human Voice (FHV) Lecture: "The Voice and Electronics."
Featuring George Todd of the music department.
Arts Center Music Rehearsal Hall

1 p.m.
FHV Lecture: "Contemporary Grand Opera."
Lowell Liebermann discusses the premiere by the Opera Company of Monte Carlo of his full-length "Picture of Dorian Gray."
Bowker House

2:30 p.m.
FHV Lecture/Demonstration: Music and Ecology.
Ted Levin of Dartmouth College, along with singers from Tuva, Siberia, will present on the relationship of vocal music and ecology.
Arts Center Concert Hall

4:15 p.m.
FHV Lecture: "Commissioning and Premiering."
Paul Sperry, who has premiered a vast amount of vocal music, discusses his collaborations with composers.
Arts Center Concert Hall

Saturday, March 8

10 a.m.
FHV Lecture: "Origins and Assimilation."
Su Lian Tan and Edward Herbst discuss the marriage of indigenous musics and western techniques.
Bowker House

11 a.m.
FHV Lecture: "Pop Music and Opera."
Daron Hagen discusses the marriage of pop music and operatic techniques in his opera, "Vera of Las Vegas."
Bowker House

3:15 p.m.
FHV Lecture: "Performance Rights and the Vocal Composer."
Frances Richard, director of the symphony and concert division of ASCAP, and her associate Cia Toscanini, discuss the intersection of art and commerce.
Arts Center Concert Hall

4:45 p.m.
FHV Lecture: "Music, Laughter and Language."
Robert Pack reads from his new book, "Minding the Sun," and discusses the relationship between sound and meaning. Reception.
Bowker House

Movies

Friday, March 7

7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. "Reservoir Dogs."
Tarantino's powerful homage/reworking of the heist-gone-wrong thriller.
Admission: $1

Saturday, March 8

4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. College Street Movie: "La Haine" ("Hate").
Starring Klaus Kinski and Patrice Melennec, and directed by Mathieu Kassovitz, this superbly volatile 1995 French film tracks the disjointed 24-hour odyssey of three unemployed youths whose friend has been shot by the police during a civil disturbance.

Performances

Friday, March 7

10 a.m.
Festival of the Human Voice (FHV) Opening Address and Welcome.
John McCardell, college president, opens the festival, which is sponsored by the music department, Thomas Fellowship, and the Arts Division.
Arts Center Concert Hall

8 p.m.
FHV Concert: "Huun Huur Tu"
The Huun Huur Tu Throat singers will perform vocal and instrumental music from Tuva, Siberia.
Arts Center Concert Hall

10 p.m.
First Friday Cultural Coffeehouse: A cappella performances
Featuring The Mischords, Mama Pajamas, and the Mountain Ayres. Serving gourmet coffees.
Sponsored by the Center for the Arts, Brainerd Commons, and dining services.
Arts Center Rehearsals Cafe

10:30 p.m.
Concert: Harrod and Funck
A lounge-act charity concert.
Sponsored by Atwater Commons.
McCullough Floor

Saturday, March 8

1:30 p.m.
FHV Workshop: "Duets and Trios."
With composers from Bard, Bennington, Dartmouth, and Middlebury, including Pete Rodriguez and Scott Gendel from Bard, and from Bennington: Dan Mohr with Sheila Lewandowski singing a song by Rebekah Pym.

8 p.m.
FHV Concert: "Large Ensembles."
Arrangements presented by composers and musicians from various colleges including Middlebury, Bard, Bennington, and Dartmouth.
Arts Center Concert Hall

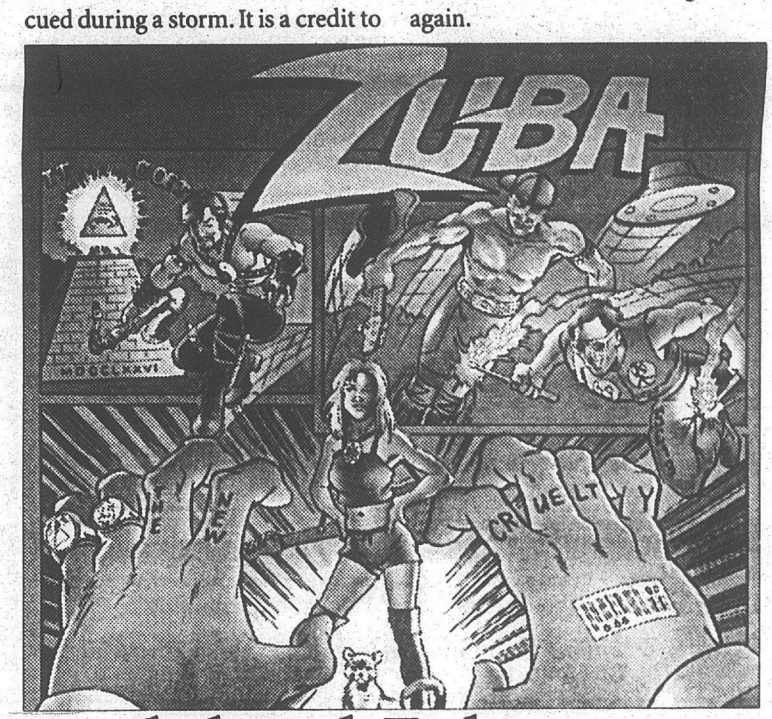
8 p.m.
Comedy Show
Midd Comedy Jam promises lots of laughs with four comedians from the NYC and LA areas. Party to follow. Note: adult language.
Admission: $3

Sunday, March 9

11 a.m.
FHV Chapel Service: "Sacred Choral Music"
Emory Fanning, conductor, performs sacred music by American composers.
Mead Chapel

11 a.m.
FHV Concert: Excerpts from "Gimpel the Fool"
"Gimpel the Fool" pieces, in addition to works from professors at Bard, Dartmouth, and Middlebury colleges.
Arts Center Concert Hall

9:30 p.m.
Performance: Wood's Tea Co.
Folk music, an annual favorite. CDs will be available for purchase.
Sponsored by the Gamut Room.
Gifford Gamut Room



Funk band Zuba proves lucid, 'easy-to-swallow'

Sam Folk-Williams
Staff Writer

Zuba, a four-piece funk band from Colorado, is currently touring in support of their third full-length CD. They will perform at Club Toast in Burlington this Saturday evening, March 8.

The album, aptly titled *The New Cruelty*, was released last April and has seen a fair amount of success — coming from an indie band. The somewhat high sales of the CD can easily be attributed to the fact that it is extremely lucid and easy-to-swallow, highly danceable, upbeat, high energy, and all those sorts of things. The full-bodied blonde vocals of the band's front woman, Liza, are fairly attractive, and her crisp funk guitar sets a clear tone.

Tunes like "I'd have to say" and "Universal" showcase the band's talent for attractive, lively, and well-built songs. Lyrics about the ills of corporate America, what it's like to earn a living the hard way, and the legalization of pot enforce the band's commonality.

Over all the music is very solid and tightly held together. It's very well done and extremely pleasing to hear — but not to listen to. The biggest drawback is the lack of originality. Zuba is the type of band that provides the background music in a smoky club full of drunk youth on some weekend night in the middle of winter. So, they'll be perfect to check out at Club Toast on Saturday night, but don't plan on buying the CD.

Gordon Stone integrates variety of musical forms

(continued from page 15)
and imagination. Indeed, the strength of the trio's compositions lay in their unfaltering dedication to the songs' unpredictability.

Their numbers traveled, crashed, resumed, and unapologetically picked up yet another new tempo without a moment's hesitation.

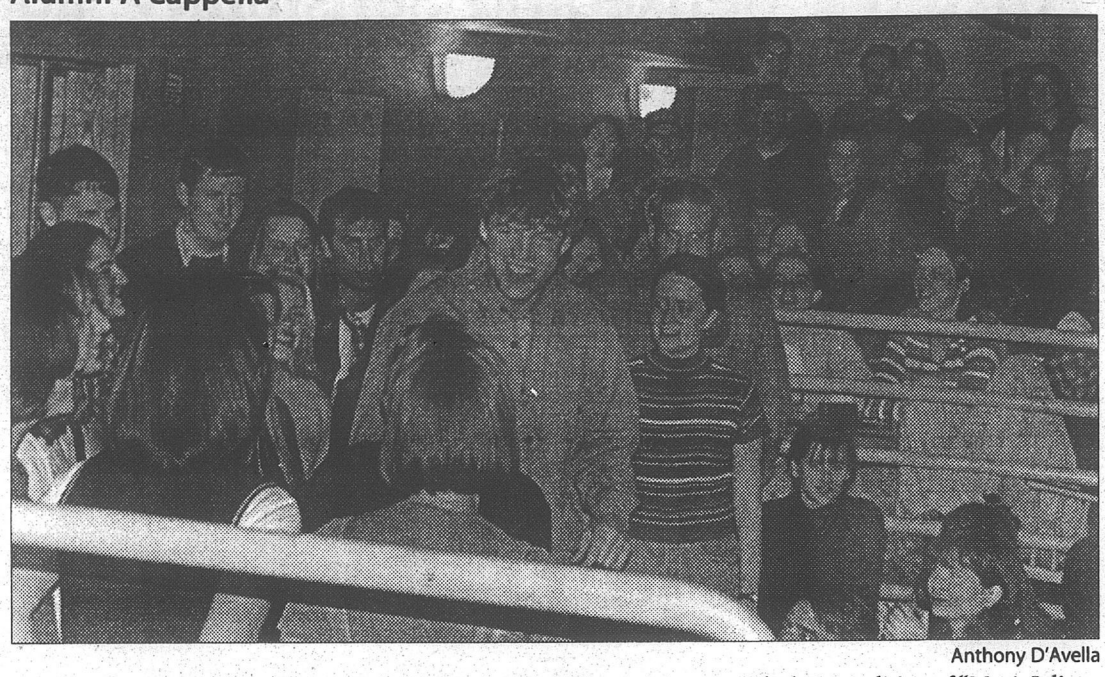
Patterns of musical movement slighted each other, overlapped, contradicted, supported, and comically jabbed in a fascinating, delicate balance of tone judgements and, above all, provocative coherency.

One look around the Gamut Room confirmed the contagious quality of their uninhibited work as feet tapped, foreheads nodded back and forth, howls pierced the air, fingers snapped, and bodies even swayed and bounced. Often the trio entered into sections during their compositions where they seemed to be digging deeper and deeper to excavate a single chord and stretch it through, emphasize it, or temporarily suspend it as another transition of sound.

The Gordon Stone Trio's substance is pure bluegrass, pure funk, pure sweat, pure extraction from the mouth of the rushing river from which their numbers flow.

Ultimately, Andy Cotton, the trio's bass player, summed up what he felt their music was about at the end of the evening in saying, "It's for you to decide for yourself."

Alumni A Cappella



Anthony D'Avella

Tyson Lien '98 and the Mama Pajamas *entertained a full Gamut Room with their rendition of "Me & Julio down by the schoolyard." The concert featured cameo appearances by the group's alumni.*

'You do what you do' presents compelling life of von Maltzan

(continued from page 15)
is quickly sketched before us in all its richness, and we see a woman with an unfailing moral compass and a simple philosophy: do something, do anything, there is always a choice.

Marianne Lust grabs at the heart of von Maltzan's story with none of the sanctimony or "Schindler's List"-sentimentality that so often intrudes on tales of great personal courage in the face of evil. Both Lust's script and Lubar's performance show the fruits of intimate personal contact with their subject; as a result, the show is more of a rubbing taken from life than an interpretive portrait.

It brims with love for von Maltzan. The overall effect is so entrancing that one does not know whether to applaud for the woman who could live her life in such a way or for the actress who can bring that personality across so completely. Both richly deserve the standing ovation they received from Saturday's audience.

Lubar's performance as the aged Countess is magnificent and lucid. She performs a small miracle of creation onstage, bringing to life not only the character of the Countess, but a wide variety of imaginary interlocutors and a menagerie of animals running underfoot. At one point in the first act Lubar has to simultaneously interact with two young punks, an obnoxious journalist, a dotty helpmate, a parrot and a large dog. She pulls it off flawlessly.

She performs a small miracle of creation onstage, bringing to life not only the character of the Countess, but a wide variety of imaginary interlocutors and a menagerie of animals running underfoot.

The human guests all receive portions of the cognac that the Countess liberally sips when not busy smoking cigarillos or tasting chocolates, the "beasties" are petted and allowed to interact with the visitors, and the audience can easily keep track of everyone.

Lubar speaks with a slight German accent, with frequent exclamations in that language, modulating and coloring her voice to fit her subject and her invisible listeners.

She is manifestly comfortable on stage and admirably subtle in her interpretation of the more emotional parts of the script.

The staging supported her with modest but colorful furnishings and props that looked authentically German and that swirled around in the vortex of activity that surrounded the Countess.

In fact, the only weak point in Saturday's show was a light board operator who seemed to incorrectly time a lot of cues, thus saving this reviewer the embarrassment of having no constructive criticism to offer.

Those who missed the performance should keep an eye peeled next year, in case Lubar, who lives in Vermont, decides to return to Middlebury for a third time.

Everyone might wish to take a look at von Maltzan's autobiography, "Beat the Drum and Have no Fear," or at the book that inspired Lust's show, "Rescuers: Portraits of Courage in the Holocaust."

Thanks to Hillel and the Woman's Culture Series for their sponsorship of this wonderful production.

Summer is sooner than you think

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Talk probes differences in novel, film

(continued from page 15)
a stoic, tearless acceptance of the brutal broken dreams of reality.

Mrs. Bertolini pointed out that this difference between the two sisters is less pronounced in the novel; in this case, she said, the novel "economizes" where the film expands. While in the film the love that springs up between Elinor and Edward Farris is the dominating opening theme, the first few pages in the novel deal more with the sisters' different reactions to their father's death, rather than with the blossoming, unspoken-of love, which is quietly relegated to the background.

Mrs. Bertolini also pointed out that the film, too, "economizes" where the book cannot, for it shows in one, poignant frame what took Austen several pages at a stretch to describe. Notable among these "film economizations" is the scene in which the "rascal"

Willoughby watches Marianne's marriage from up on a hill, while seated ramrod straight in the saddle of his redoubtable white horse. It is a scene pregnant with emotion — we see the shadows of regret and pain and the death of hope dance across his dark, handsome face. It takes only a few emotion-choked cinematic seconds for us to grasp the enormity of the moment, whereas in the novel, it is dwelt on for several pages.

The film, however, makes one crucial sacrifice: it exchanges Austen's delicious irony and sense of humor for cinematic melodrama and romance.

While the Bertolinis urged their audience that Ang Lee has created a beautiful and moving film, they also reminded them that it does not have the same effect on the viewer as does the novel on the reader, for the latter has a tone that is more realistic, lighthearted, and at times, even mocking.

The film lacks the subtlety the novel has in abundance, but the novel does not have the heart-rending, tear-inducing, unforgettable moments of sensual visual sentimentalism. Therein, perhaps, lies the difference between the art of the novel and the art of cinema.

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Correction:

Last week's Arts story "Levy merges jazz and classical styles in Gamut Room performance" failed to include a by-line. The story was written by staff writer Ethan Marcotte. Our apologies to Ethan.

'Nunnery' residents enjoy heaven provided by substance-free living

By Michelle Ruth
Staff Writer

I'm a nun, but I don't wear a habit, and people don't call me "sister." I live in the "Nunnery," third- floor Battell, with 20 other women. We call ourselves "substance free."

There have been a lot of questions as to what "substance free" really is. I've seen other students, mostly guys, walk through our hall "just to see what it's like." References to first-floor Battell South as "hell" and third-floor Center as "heaven" are not unusual.

Picture a movie: denizens of the Nunnery emerging chaste and pure from the black hole of Battell while other residents whisper, "Who are those substance-free people, and why do they want to live up there?" That's the myth. Here are the facts on substance-free living. We make our own rules regarding how substance free we want our hall to be. Some substance-free halls allow drugs, some allow alcohol, and some allow both to be kept on the hall.

The Nunnery agreed on a policy of no alcohol, no drugs, and no smoking. However, none of us signed a contract saying we will abstain from all of those substances outside the hall, and we agreed to help each other out if someone comes back to the floor in a less-than-coherent state.

Also, there are a range of attitudes toward partying and drinking in the Nunnery. Some hall members refuse to go near KDR, preferring the movies on Friday night to beer-pong. Some go out more often, not averse to the Tavern or Zoo happenings. However, the thing we can all agree upon is that it is very nice to come "home" to a hall that is not the social house scene in miniature.

The primary reason most of us chose substance-free living is that we wanted to meet people who don't get smashed every weekend. A roommate who doesn't make your clothes smell like marijuana or puke on your books is a nice exception to some first-year living situations.

We make our own rules regarding how substance free we want our hall to be.

Not knowing anyone here, we wanted to live with people with whom we would have at least one thing in common. We have become friends, even if we don't hang out together constantly. There is always someone to go to meals with or help with a difficult chem lab.

Substance free means respecting each other, and that mutual respect is the bond that keeps us in good humor — most of the time. Some of us will stay substance free, some won't. But in our first year of college, the atmosphere of the hall definitely made settling in a lot easier.

Another reason we like substance-free living is that it's quiet. There are no parties all night every Friday and Saturday, no music reverberating at three in the morning, no shouting outside our doors if we need to study.

We don't have to trek to the library if we have to read French or battle calculus, we just shut our doors.

Also, it smells nice. If you've ever been to the first floor of Battell on a Sunday morning, you know what I mean. No vomit, no spilled beer, no pizza boxes blocking our hallway.

We even have honorary hall members, people who spend an awful lot of time on our hall instead of their own, who like the quietness and clean odor. They marvel at the attitudes of friendship and respect we have toward one another, and the fact that we have weekly study breaks and get together for no particular reason.

Of course, there's always the stigma attached to being substance free. Some people think we're snobs, or "cloistered," or teetotalers, or that we can't have a good time. However, just being students who sometimes prefer doing things that don't involve alcohol does not make us exiles from the Middlebury social scene. Go to any substance-free hall on campus and see for yourself.

Andrew Lin

Dominik Zynis '00 and E.J. Cooper '00 enjoy a typical quiet evening on their substance-free hall in Gifford.

Many students at Middlebury College are only vaguely aware of the substance-free living arrangements available on campus. However, to their residents, the substance-free halls scattered throughout dorms from Stewart to Coffrin provide a myriad of advantages over typical dorm life. Residents cite advantages such as the quiet and respectful atmosphere, the cleanliness, and the supportive nature of fellow hall members as reasons they opted for substance-free living. Residents are also quick to point out that living on a substance-free hall does not necessarily prevent them from drinking, but instead makes their living environment more peaceful.

The Rub on Substance-free Living

Courtesy

Residents of the Nunnery on third floor Battell Center enjoy a special sense of community as a substance-free hall.

Stewart provides supportive environment

By Carina Beyer
Staff Writer

Many Middlebury College students make the decision early in their college careers to opt for substance-free living.

They cite a variety of reasons for their choice: they may have had unpleasant experiences in the past, or they may feel uncomfortable around alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs, or they may simply enjoy coming home to a small, friendly, quiet and clean hall every night of the week.

Fifth-floor Stewart is one of the few places on campus where you can always find a quiet and clean environment. With only 14 women, including a J.C. and an R.A. living there, our hall was quickly able to establish a respectful and supportive environment, free of substances.

A few weeks into our first semester, hall members drew up a living contract that everyone, including the J.C., agreed upon. We decided to have quiet hours after 11 p.m. on weekdays and to make our hall completely smoke and alcohol free.

We did, however, recognize that some individuals from our hall would engage in partying in other parts of the campus, and as a hall, we agreed to be supportive of them — in whatever condition — upon their return to the floor.

Thus far we haven't run into any major difficulties with our contract and at its mid-year review — a process in which all hall members took part — we made only a few minor changes to it.

We did, however, recognize that some individuals from our hall would engage in partying in other parts of the campus, and we agreed to be supportive of them upon their return to the floor.

As the year has progressed, and we have become increasingly aware of the unpleasant activities occurring on the floors below us in Stewart — dog food and water balloon fights with Battell, halls reeking of vomit and music blaring at all hours of the night just to name a few — the members of my hall have been delighted with their decision to live in a substance-free environment.

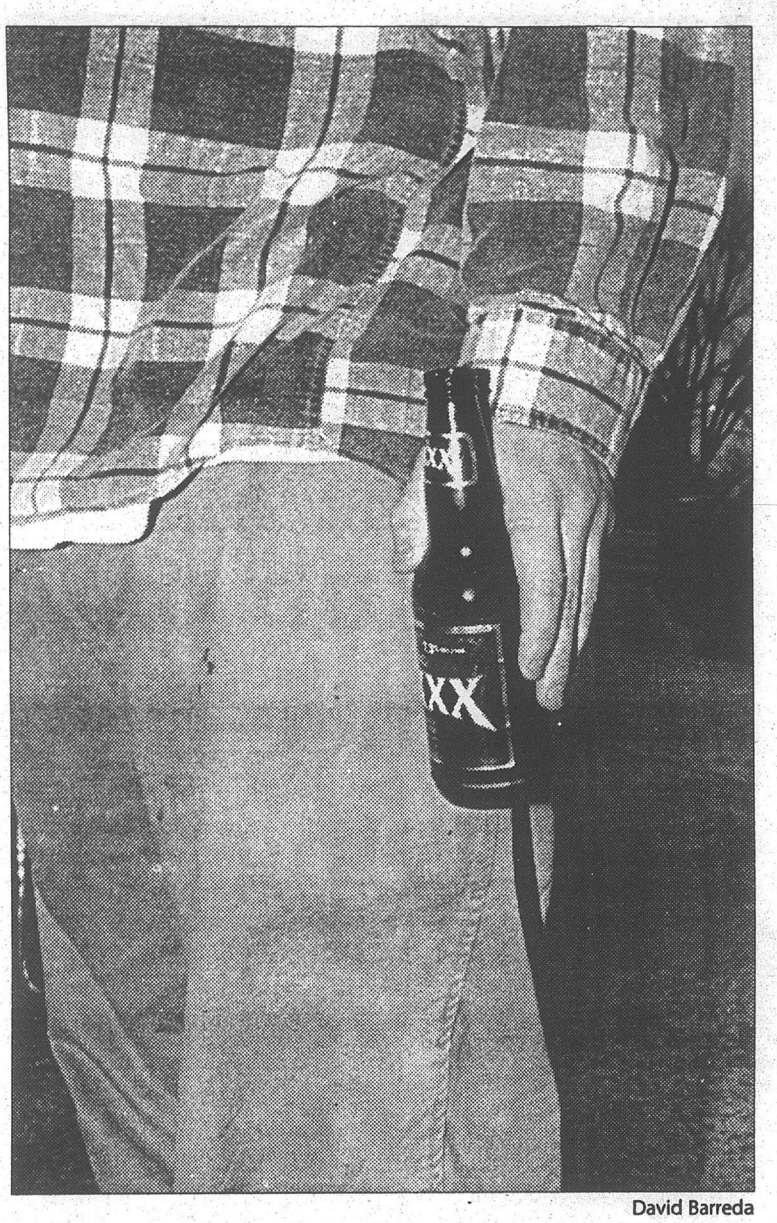
When exam week rolled around at the end of the first semester, we found our own private study lounge, that many are not even aware of because they've never climbed into the "attic" to see what or who lives up there, quiet and very helpful.

Because of its tranquility, the fifth floor lounge is also a wonderful place to entertain guests when your roommate is sleeping or studying.

Most hall members have also taken advantage of the kitchen on our floor; each one of us has used it at some time or another to either make the old standby favorite, Mac and cheese, or a batch of brownies to share with the other residents of the hall.

In general, I guess you could say that our hall is like a mini apartment shared by a group of good friends rather than a college dorm floor filled with 40-plus girls, who might only acknowledge each other in passing.

I believe I share the views of my fellow hallmates in saying that we feel very fortunate in our choice of housing this year.



David Barreda

Non-substance-free residents appreciate not having to worry about whether or not they can return to their hall with alcohol.

Non-substance-free dorms allow choice

By Kimberly Lange
Staff Writer

The existence of substance-free halls at Middlebury has recently been the focus of much concern among the campus community. While the ideology behind the system is well intentioned, there are plenty of reasons why the substance-free environment can be deemed restrictive.

Residents of Battell Hall have admitted that it is "a loud dorm." However many of the students living there are far from being unruly hooligans. In fact, the students I talked to mentioned a strong sense of community that made hallmates feel like part of "one big family." As a result, students feel a more liberated sense of self-expression, not just through drinking and illegal behavior, but in general.

So, does living in a substance-free dorm protect its residents from the distractions of drinking, and engaging in other such activities? It is apparent that in some dorms, officially deemed "substance free," more and more students are taking part in activities discordant with hall policy. Could it be that these students have grown weary of the substance-free lifestyle, turning to alcohol in an attempt to compensate for the "something" lacking in their environment?

If substance-free living does indeed typify the "ideal" mode of living, where students can party to their hearts' desire, and come home to a sober, serene environment, then why are beer bottles and cigarette butts becoming a common sight in such halls?

It could be that students attribute drinking to the enjoyment they find away from the substance-free environment. As a result, it seems natural for students to start integrating alcohol into their "substance-free" halls, not in an attempt to erode the relative placidity that exists there, but rather to emulate the social atmosphere found elsewhere.

This is not an argument for or against substance-free living. The real issue is in the handling of residence halls campus-wide. If we are going to encourage students to consider the benefits of living in substance-free dorms, then we need to consider what the system is trying to provide. Mindy Atwood '99 claims she found out early on that "everyone's idea of substance free was totally different. A lot of people just wanted quiet and thought substance free would provide that."

There are some that would agree with Atwood in saying that, "Substance free is a non-reality situation. It attracts people who aren't really grounded in reality. They're trying to create something artificial." Many would be quick to argue the contrary. There are halls that have had great success in upholding the policies established at the beginning of the year.

Yet for dorms experiencing only moderate success with the substance-free policy there exists the strain of being in the "middle ground," with some students upholding the policy, while others stray ever-so-slightly off track. For this reason, Atwood, who lived on substance-free fifth-floor Gifford last year, went on to support a hall based on "moderation." This prevents students who seldom drink from feeling guilty returning home after having consumed alcohol.

Incoming students in particular need to be informed of the concept of substance-free living. "It's asking a lot of a person who has never been to college to choose their living arrangements without knowing what it's like," said Atwood.

A first-year student, asked to compare substance-free dorms to the alternative, claimed that all the dorms were fundamentally similar. Socializing seemed to pervade life campus-wide, whether or not alcohol was involved. He admitted that "dorm living is what you make of it." When asked what he had gained from living in Battell he candidly replied, "shelter." Provided hallmates are being respectful of each other, isn't that what really matters in the end?

Students choose substance-free living for a variety of reasons

By Marty Whited
Staff Writer

Middlebury College has a reputation for being a school where everyone works hard, and plays hard, too. Playing hard means sports but also parties, and parties mean alcohol and tobacco. So why would anyone want to live on a substance-free hall?

The most pertinent facts outline a simple response — people who live on substance-free halls have the choice to be completely substance-free or not, because they can drink, smoke and party, just not on their hall. As Brooke Penick '99 observed, "You can go elsewhere to drink."

Shwe Yee Mon '99 of fifth-floor Coffrin green described what the two key points of living on a substance-free hall are for her — respect and balance.

The most important thing is that members of a substance-free hall respect one another, and have certain fundamental principles in common. As a Buddhist, Mon strives for balance in all areas of life, and substance use is something she finds acceptable as long as it is within that balance.

Mon is not alone in her opinions. Virtually everyone I interviewed mentioned balance, and most importantly, respect as reasons for living on a substance-free hall.

On Coffrin fifth floor green, religion abounds; on this one hall alone Buddhists, Roman Catholics, Greek Orthodox, Christian Scientists, Bahá'is, and Protestant Christians are represented.

This doesn't mean their religions are against alcohol and tobacco, although in the case of my own religion, Bahá'is are forbidden to drink alcohol or even to use it as a flavoring. My values are a departure from the norm for substance-free living, because most people on the hall do drink, just not to excess.

The reason so many religious people are found on this hall is because they share a dedication to respect, and they value peace and quiet.

However, several people I interviewed agreed with Larry McDermott '99 that "sometimes it's a little too perfect up here." Several people observed that you need noise sometimes too, even when you value the peace and quiet of a substance-free hall.

The most important thing is that members of a substance-free hall respect one another, and have certain fundamental principles in common.

McDermott reflected that he associates with friends who drink and smoke and who hold different outlooks than his own, but he wouldn't choose to live in that kind of atmosphere.

McDermott also agrees with Mon in that sometimes substance-free halls aren't as diverse as they could be. Even so, McDermott has applied to be a J.C. on a substance-free hall next year.

Allen Cowett '99 also aspires to be a substance-free J.C. This is his second year on a substance-free hall, and he finds no negatives associated with the arrangement. He stressed the third most popular response to why he chose a substance-free hall; he was looking for a "quiet, clean environment."

Anne Marie Calareso '99 agreed, and asserted that the substance-free environment is more like a home than other halls. She mentioned also the most frequently mentioned negative about our hall — its location. Then again, Calareso noted that it is useful because you can retreat from the rest of campus and college life.

Don Sterrett '99 sees substance-free halls as "a benefit to those who want to get work done." He speaks of such a hall as "a utopia in the midst of Battell." The primary negative of living on a substance-free hall in his view is that the halls sometimes cultivate an aura of exclusivity that he dislikes. His twin brother, Dave Sterrett '99 stressed, however, that the people on his hall are all very friendly, and all are very strong individuals.

Roommates Michelle Matheson '99 and Angela Jewell '99 echoed the sentiments that everyone in their hall gets along and is very friendly.

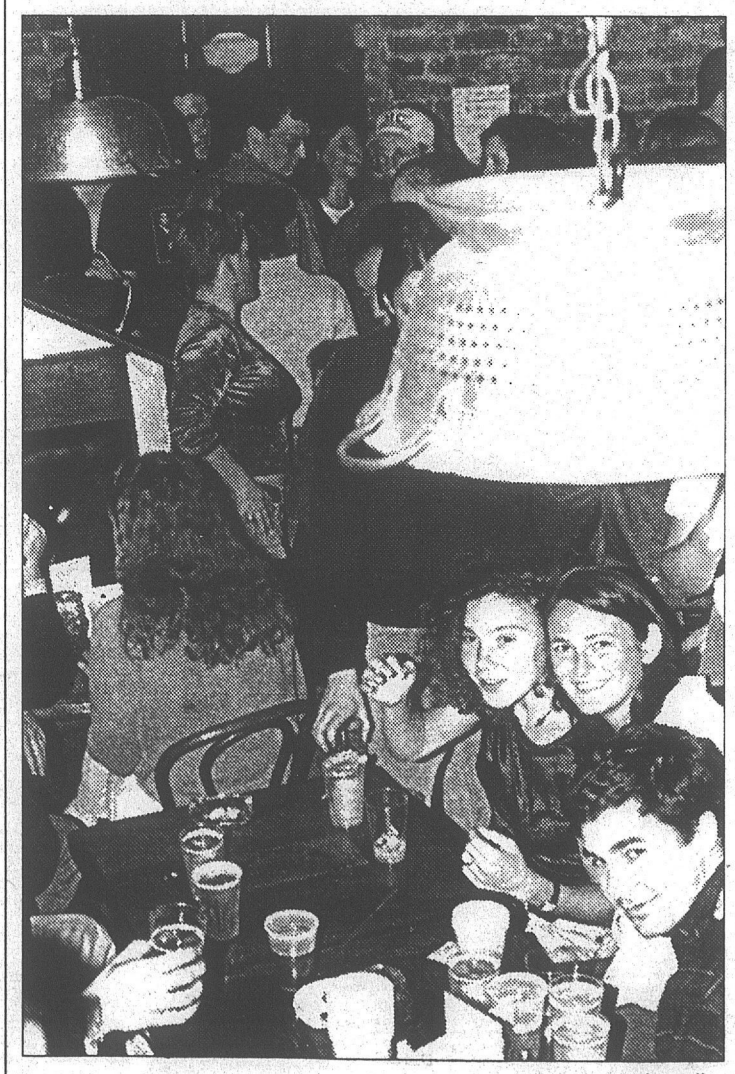
Realistically, though, there are other reasons for considering substance-free halls. Alon Katz '99 admitted that he was interested "primarily in getting a nice room." In addition, many of Katz's friends live on his hall, and he's met some new ones along the way. Would he choose substance free again? That would depend, he said, on the kind of rooms and if he knew the people on the hall.

Dimitrios Spiliakos '99 underscored the advantages of a substance-free hall, saying that on such a hall, you're with a bunch of people who think the same way as you do. Sure, you have to go elsewhere to drink and party, but the positives far outweigh the negatives, he feels. Spiliakos said he would recommend living on a substance-free hall to anyone considering it.

Dave Weinberg '99, a visitor to Coffrin from a substance-free hall in Lang's first floor, summed up the primary benefit for substance-free living for him, saying, "I get to sleep. And, it's not that you can't party," he continued, saying that he just deals with substances elsewhere or quietly in his own room.

Are there negatives to living on a substance-free hall? No, not really. "It's a little too quiet, but not oppressive," he commented. Would he recommend it to others? Apparently. He was quoted as saying "Go substance-free, yeeeaaaah."

Seniors celebrate 100 days party



Alex Fuller

Both *drinkers and nondrinkers alike were welcome to the festivities at Mr. Ups in February.*

Women's lax sets sights on NCAAs

By David Smith
Sports Editor

There are two words that send any Middlebury women's lacrosse player's heart-a-fluttering: Trenton State.

That's right, Trenton, as in New Jersey.

The last three years it has been Trenton State that has cruelly ended Middlebury's hopes at a national title.

Last year, the Cinderella Panther squad advanced as far as the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Championship game, on some talent and a lot of heart, only to be turned away by Trenton at the final turn.

This year, the Panthers hope to return again to NCAA post-season play, and all want the chance to exact revenge against the spoilers from Jersey. Unfortunately, the road ahead is a tough one, possibly the toughest ever. "We have a harder schedule than ever before," commented head coach Missy Foote.

Foote is not exaggerating. The Panthers must face Connecticut College in two weeks, a game that will probably see Middlebury outside for the first time this season. Conn handed the Panthers one of their only two losses last year, and it was also the first team that Middlebury faced in the NCAA tourney.

After Conn, the Panthers will be getting ready to start traveling to Virginia for their Spring break. While in Virginia, the Panthers will face four teams that advanced into the NCAA post-season last year. That's five games against five top teams, right in a row.

Despite all of this early pressure, the Panthers are still the team to beat in New England. Ranked number two pre-season, the Panthers are returning all but three starters from last season, including a potent offensive attack and strong goaltending.

The big question mark will be defense. Despite losing only three players, the Middlebury squad is still remarkably young, and there are big shoes to fill on Middlebury's side of the field.

Leading the charge on offense will be senior captains Whit Parks and Amy DiAdamo. DiAdamo is the second all-time leading scorer at Middlebury, and she leads the Panthers in assists, goals and overall points. She is also heralded as a possible Division III player of the year for this season.

"She sees the field so well," said Foote. "She takes advantage of every moment." As for Parks, Foote said, "She has an unbelievably hard shot; she'll be a huge factor."

At the Middlebury midfield, the Panthers return another strong set, including Amity Wall '99 and captain Liz Aybar '97. "For Amity it all seems to have come together this year, she has really worked hard," Foote said. "Liz has beautiful defense and hustle, she really sets the tone nicely for hard work."

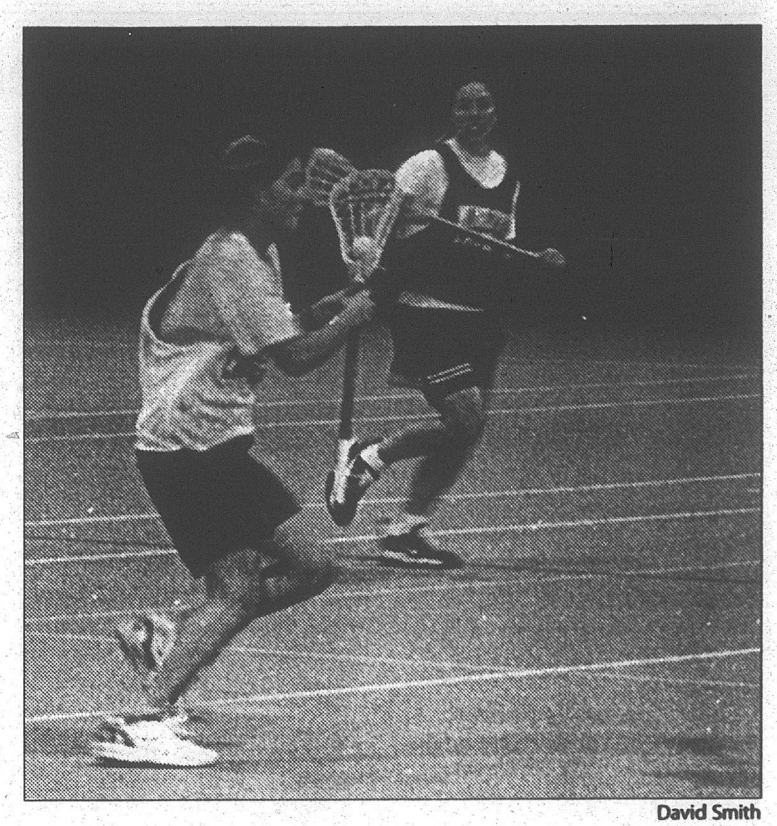
Foote will also be counting on the goaltending ability of Emily Bracken '98. "She's on fire this year," said Foote. "She's really stepped up her play, and she's only going to get better outside."

Rounding out the team are senior Amy Flanders, juniors Meggan Haarmann, Randi Borgen, and Lina Chickering, sophomores Heidi Dripps, Kully Hagerman, Wendy Hession, Melissa Hopkins, Heidi Howard, rookie Francie Madsen, and first-years Carolyn Bruce, Jessa Martin, and Katherine Rodormer.

In 25 years, the women's lacrosse team has never had a losing season. Over the last three years, the team has a combined record of 39-9, including three trips to the NCAA tournament.

To keep this tradition alive, all players must step up and play well early on in order to realize the dream of NCAAs.

But Foote is cautious, saying only, "We want to play consistently strong throughout the season." She continued with the old coach's adage: "we're just going to take it one game at a time."



David Smith

Captain Amy DiAdamo '97 leads the women's lacrosse practice in Fletcher.

Baseball plays catch-up in preseason

By Jon Schonberg
Staff Writer

If there is one thing that a baseball player thrives on more than tradition and routine, it is a warm sunny afternoon to have a pair of games. Unfortunately this year, the Middlebury Panthers varsity baseball team will lose all of the above because the spring break training trip to sunny Florida has been modified go only as far as Springfield, Massachussetts.

As a result, Middlebury will barnstorm the New England area colleges beginning March 29 with Amherst. This places Middlebury ballplayers behind the eight-ball as they will experience their first game against a team already accustomed to the high sunny skies not found in Fletcher Field House.

Fortunately, Coach Bob Smith plans to return South next year as the calender committee has changed next year's schedule back to normal. Although a huge disappointment for the seniors on the team this year, underclassmen can look forward to a week of sunburn, team bonding, and excellent baseball next year.

Despite all of this, the team expects to build on last season's hard- earned experience and improve on the year's sub-500 winning percentage. The sole senior to graduate last year was outfielder Doug Mandigo who returns this year to be the assistant to Head Coach Smith, and only four players will graduate this year.

These are Darren Bloch '97.5, Ricky Durst '97, Jim Walsh '97, and Jonathan Schonberg '97. This alone illustrates just how young this team is. Although not nearly as wet behind the ears as last year's squad, which featured a host of talented but inexperienced first-year ballplayers, youth is still a major factor on this year's team.

This year, as always, Coach Smith emphasizes the importance of strong defensive play and solid pitching. He recalls four or five games that were lost last year as a result of late-inning defensive or pitching breakdowns, and hopes that these things will improve from both hard work and experience.

When inquired about hitting, Smith has confidence that run production at the plate will take care of itself. Aside from Mandigo, the same batting lineup as last year is in place, and Smith feels that the offense will be potent enough to put the opponents away, provided defense is up to par.

The pitching staff intends to cut down on walks and keep the team in tight ballgames with the help of second-year pitching coach Bill Hageman. This Middlebury Legion baseball coach is preparing pitcher's arms for the cold weather and quick bats they will face this spring.

Smith notes the progress the pitchers have made up to this point but feels that they need to prepare even more intensely for the shorter and more condensed season. A season shortened by even one week can push pitchers to the point of injury due to less resting time between games.

Veteran junkballer Durst will rely on the young, buggy-whip arms of Colin O' Neil '98, A.J. Husband '99, and Scott Dudley '99 to round out the staff. These pitchers have the tools to win plenty of games provided they have mental toughness and a reliable bullpen. This bullpen will consist of Schonberg and several hopeful, though unproven rookies.

Smith speaks enthusiastically of his outfield and predicts an excellent defensive and offensive year from his young fleet of speedsters. They are returning players Andy Mcphee '98, Jon Maletis '99, and Jeff Sengle '99. Smith admits he has a problem many coaches would love to have, and that is too many good outfielders.

Infielders include veterans such as second baseman Block and the sure-handed shortstop Walsh. The juniors are: gritty third baseman Judd Bruzgal, the hard-hitting catcher Ron Nobile, and D.H./first baseman power-hitter Davin Wilfrid. Sophomores Ethan Mark and Brian Coates will be key, playing at second and first bases, respectively.

All these fellows have proven themselves as hard-nosed, gutsy ballplayers, and they hope to bring it all together this year.

The competitive group of rookies also plan on making their impact this year, and intend to keep the above-mentioned players on their toes.

With a little warm weather, luck, and plenty of hard work, this year's team plans to outplay its opponents. They of course will bear in mind the words of Yogi Berra; "over 90% of baseball is half mental."

Men's swimming claims third at New England's

(continued from page 24)

and 15th in the 200 IM), and Sobek, who finished in ninth place in the 100 IM. The other men's champion was two-time New England champion, McCollum. He took the 50 fly in 23.28 and the 50 back with a time of 24.58. He also placed second in the 200 fly (51.81).

Other finishers in the fly events included Sobek, 11th in the 50 fly, and Beeson, 15th in the 200 fly.

First-year Matt Fiorentino led the Panther breaststrokers with a ninth place finish in the 200 breast, an 11th place finish in the 50 breast, and a 13th place finish in the 100 breast. Other Panther finishes in the breaststroke included senior Ethan Sluter, 18th in the 50 breast, Mark Williams '00, 21st in the 100 breast and 14th in the 200 breast.

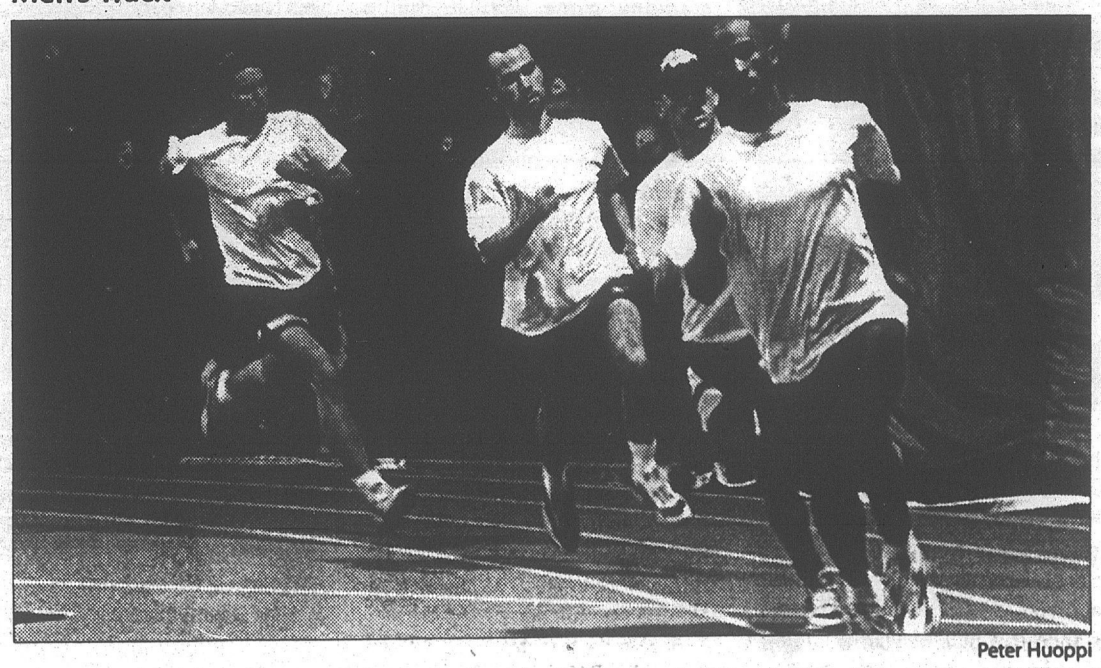
The Panther freestylers also had a strong showing. Finishing sixth in the 200 free and 12th in the 500 free, was Larsen. In 12th place in the 200 freestyle was Shomaker, who also finished eighth in the 50 free. Also finishing strong in the 50 free were first-year Ben Stucker and Sobek '99 in 13th and 19th places, respectively. The grueling 1,650- freestyle race was swum by Frank Pandolfe '00 in 13th place.

Behind McCollum in the 50 back was Doherty in fifth place. Doherty had a strong New England meet as well, swimming in four relay events, and placing in all three of his individual events.

His strongest showing was a third-place finish in the 200 back (1:54.79), while he also placed fifth in the 100 back. Osterberg finished behind Doherty in these events, with an eighth-place finish in the 100 back, ninth in the 50 back, and 14th place in the 200 backstroke.

On March 20-22, the top Panther men travel to Miami University of Ohio for the NCAA Division III National Championships. Last year, the men finished 22nd out of 72 teams.

Men's Track



Peter Huoppi

Four-hundred-meter runners: *James Ackerly '00, Matt "Hairy-Backed" Burwell '98, Gabe McCrary '00 and Kris Clarke '97 prepare for spring track. The team plans to move its training outdoors after break.*

Men's basketball ends season at 7-17

By Chris Botting
Staff Writer

The men's basketball team went into the '96-'97 season with high hopes for possible post-season play in the East Coast Athletic Conference (ECAC) tournament. These hopes were all but dashed early on with the season-ending injury of tri-captain Adam Boffey '98, the only member of the team over 6'4."

"The Boffey injury changed the whole complexion of the team," said Head Coach Russ Reilly, "it had a lot of impact." The team struggled to compensate for the loss of height down low, but did not find the right tools to halt the downward skid.

The Panthers traveled to Williams College on the February 18 to seek revenge for the drubbing received almost a month earlier. Already guaranteed to advance to tournament action as the #1 seed, the Williams team was confident on its home court, and took an easy lead.

Size was (as usual) a big factor in the game as Middlebury worked hard to grab rebounds. The Panthers played a great defensive game, and cut the Ephmen's lead down to eight points with five minutes to go, but Williams managed to pull away with some key three-point shots and free throws down the stretch.

The final score stood at 92-69, but the score "was not indicative of how well we played," said Reilly. This game was a far cry from the 31-point loss suffered earlier in the year.

Middlebury's next game ended up in a heartbreaker at Union College. It was a game with "interesting refereeing," said Reilly.

The Panthers played well during the first half, securing a lead. The second half saw Middlebury lose some of their drive as they came out flat and the game slipped away.

The team fought back, and evened the score with seconds to go, but Union found a way to score with only two seconds left in the game, securing a two-point lead. Middlebury had the shot, but it bounced out, leaving the Panthers with a tough two-point loss.

Tri-captain Greg Poulos '98 led scorers with 21 points, while Mike Faucher '99 and Joey Faucher '00 scored 17 and 16 points respectively, and Matt Lasek '98 put in 12. The team returned home on the February 27 to face Clarkson College. The Panthers played well, despite poor shooting, in a match that became a defensive battle. Rebounding was the difference, as it was all season. Middlebury gave up 12 more rebounds to Clarkson.

"We had a tough time winning," said Reilly as the game came down to a final shot again, the ball rolling out, cementing the lost score at 60-57.

Joey Faucher led Middlebury with 17 points, Poulos pacing him with 11, and Mike Hussey '99 played a good game with 12 points.

The Panthers bussed it down to Trinity College on March 1 for the final game of the season. Eager to end the season with a win, Middlebury struggled to put on a good showing, but were flat in the first half, only making seven out of 32 attempted shots.

Knowing that this game meant their season, the team came out on fire in the second half, scoring 57 points in all and finishing strong. But with time against them, the Panthers were unable to pull it off.

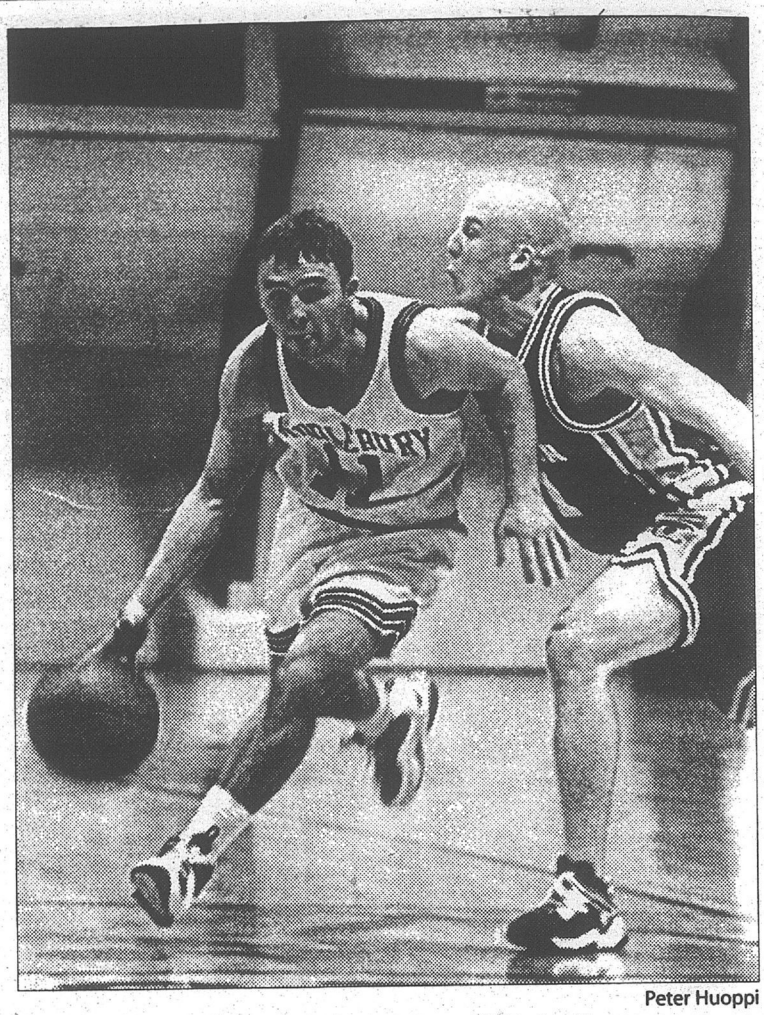
"We might have been able to catch them at the end if we had more time," said Reilly. The final score of the season sat at 91-84, Joe Faucher pulling in 31 points, Poulos with 20, and Hussey with 11.

This season has been one of ups and downs for the men's basketball team, because as soon as the machine was greased and running smoothly, one of the main engines broke down.

The loss of Boffey created a big disadvantage for a team that already suffered from a lack of size, and a winning streak quickly degraded into a losing streak, ending with a final record of 7-17.

Coach Reilly is optimistic about next season since this year's team is graduating only one senior. The Panthers look to return most starters next year and hope to get a favorable recruiting class with some size.

The goal of post-season play has already been set, and one can almost hear Reilly's mind working out new strategies for next season's play; but for now, men's basketball takes a much-deserved rest after a long and tough season.



Peter Huoppi

Mike Faucher '99 drives to the hoop in the Panther's final home game

Track makes a storm at ECAC meet

By Matt Burwell
and Erin Dempsey
Staff Writers

The Middlebury men's and women's track teams traveled to Boston University (BU) on Saturday to compete in the championship meet of the East Coast Athletic Conference (ECAC). The Panthers posted some truly wondrous performances, and a good time was had by all.

Anne-Marie Oberg '98 showed what she was made of, as she earned all-ECAC honors with her third place finish in the 20-pound weight throw. Oberg, whose 47-foot, 11.75-inch throw broke the school record, now awaits notification as to whether she qualified for the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) meet.

Another integral part of the Panthers women's track field-event crew is high jumper Erin Parker '00, who jumped 4' 11.75" at ECAC. This effort ends a truly impressive debut season for Parker, who now looks forward to a promising outdoor season.

Another first-year who has wowed indoor track fans is Anna Tiven. She had a disappointing race on Saturday, finishing with a time of 9.39 seconds in the 55-meter hurdles. Nevertheless, Tiven's optimistic attitude proves that hope doth spring eternal in the minds of those to whom serious health considerations pose no threat.

Track impresario and noted motivational speaker Jeff Stone was quite impressed by Tiven's indoor track season. "Perhaps Anna was intimidated by the knowledge that on this very track [at BU]Matt Burwell '98 and Sam Grosso battled for the title of the best hurdler in the Bay State League in 1994. Nonetheless, I look forward to seeing her dominate the field during the outdoor season."

The long-distance events provided a great deal of track excitement for those fans who cared to attend the meet. Among those who so cared and so attended was Ben "Dover" Dixon '98.

Dixon commented, "I was talking to my friend Harold Miner, and he told me that Angenie was a very fast woman. But I never expected her to run the 1,500 in under five minutes." Contrary to Mr. Dover's expectations, Angenie McCleary '99 took ninth place in the 1,500, with a time of 4:58.19. Not to be outdone, running powerhouse Michelle Anastasio '97 earned an eighth place finish in the arduous 5,000-meter run.

Representing the men's team were Adam Consigli '99, Mike Cormier '99 and Paul Horsham '00. Mr. Consigli took 14th place in the 35-pound weight throw with a solid distance of 45' 9." Mr. Consigli later declared: "This is my best throw of the season. I'm pretty happy."

Horsham demolished the competition in the 55-meter dash, earning fourth place. Horsham's time of 6.64 seconds is the second fastest 55-meter time in Middlebury history. He waxed philosophical about the import of his performance: "May the Lord be praised that I did not run two hundredths of a second slower. The mark of the beast is the last thing I need right now."

Cormier took ninth place in the 200-meter dash, with a time of 23.04 seconds, his best of the season. He said, "I want all of my fans to know that this ninth place finish does not portend a poor outdoor season. In fact, in outdoor I will do far better than I did here. Some of my competition are just begging to be made examples of. I mean, they could mess up a cup of coffee."

Don't despair, many of these athletes are now praying for Spring and preparing for the rigor of the great outdoors.

Hockey repeats as the ECAC Alliance champs

(continued from page 24)

Middlebury played an outstanding game against Maine. They played as a team and won as a team, which vaulted them into the Championship game against Bowdoin.

A mere 14 seconds into the first period, McDougall and Pullins assisted Hefner's game-opening goal. By the end of the first period, Middlebury had bumped the score up to 4-0 with goals by Pullins, Ryan, and Hefner (two).

Middlebury never relented, scoring another goal, this one by O'Neil on a pass from Parks. McDougall continued the scoring streak followed by Pullins. The only power-play goal was netted by Ryan on a beautiful cut to the middle receiving a pass from Pullins and Hefner.

Two minutes later, Ryan scored, giving her a hat trick for the game. McDougall scored the one goal of the third period assisted by Cotton and O'Neil. The 10-0 final netted the Panthers the championship and represented in one game the dominance that they had shown all season long. Beth Denoncourt '00 and Hackman made a total of five saves while Maine saved 30 shots.

Middlebury had a great season making their final record 21-6 and giving the team the honor of being the first Middlebury women's hockey team to win over 20 games.

It has been a great season for the Panthers. Seniors Hefner, Whitney Parks, Laine Catlin, Sarah Vintiadis, Kate Oates, and Libby Zug will definitely be missed next year. Each has been an important part of the team, exhibiting a tremendous amount of leadership and team spirit throughout her four years at Middlebury.

The Panthers look forward to seeing their fans next year as they attempt to three-peat their championship record.

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Final NESCAC Standings Week #12 (through March 3rd)

Men's Basketball

School	Win	Loss	Pct.	Streak
Williams	22	2	.917	W13
Amherst	20	4	.833	W1
Colby	20	4	.833	W1
Tufts	19	5	.792	W6
Bowdoin	18	6	.750	L1
Connecticut College	17	7	.708	L1
Hamilton	15	9	.625	W2
Trinity	13	10	.565	W3
Bates	8	16	.333	W1
Middlebury	**7**	**17**	**.292**	**L4**
Wesleyan	7	17	.292	L3

				TOTAL		3-POINTERS			REBOUNDS									
No.	Player	GP	GS	MIN	AVG	FG-FGA	PCT	FG-FGA	PCT	FT-FTA	PCT	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	A	TO	BLK	ST	PTS	AVG
10	Joey Faucher	24	24	749	31.2	133-393	.338	90-266	.338	78-102	.765	9	58	67	2.8	27	64	1	26	434	18.1
21	Greg Poulos	24	24	741	30.9	108-274	.394	23-82	.280	97-120	.808	33	70	103	4.3	56	64	10	20	336	14.0
14	John Maletis	24	7	546	22.8	54-170	.318	22-80	.275	42-49	.857	13	27	40	1.7	37	42	1	26	172	7.2
33	Mike Hussey	24	13	568	23.7	55-146	.377	2-13	.154	51-77	.662	48	78	126	5.3	27	32	10	15	163	6.8
11	Mike Faucher	19	18	570	30.0	54-144	.375	13-42	.310	22-35	.629	10	46	56	2.9	91	47	1	23	143	7.5
55	Adam Boffey	10	10	309	30.9	49-97	.505	0-0	.000	17-30	.567	27	66	93	9.3	13	22	11	8	115	11.5
35	Matt Lasek	24	5	413	17.2	48-102	.471	0-3	.000	11-25	.440	38	61	99	4.1	5	30	6	15	107	4.5
43	Sean Bianchi	24	18	455	19.0	32-93	.344	6-17	.353	19-28	.679	27	40	67	2.8	20	31	5	8	89	3.7
22	Craig Breen	24	1	174	7.3	27-62	.435	21-47	.447	4-8	.500	8	9	17	0.7	4	10	0	2	79	3.3
45	Dave Frye	18	0	223	12.4	12-33	.364	3-5	.600	6-9	.667	18	31	49	2.7	10	9	1	12	33	1.8
Middlebury Totals		24		4800		573-1521	.377	180-555	.324	351-494	.711	282	576	858	35.8	291	354	46	156	1677	69.9
Opponents Totals		24		4800		707-1563	.452	148-435	.340	330-481	.686	361	7411	102	45.9	349	369	55	143	1892	78.8

SCORE BY PERIODS:	1st	2nd	OT1	OT2	TOTAL
Opponents	901	991	0	0	1892
Middlebury	765	912	0	0	1677

DEADBALL REBOUNDS:	OFF	DEF	TOTAL
Opponents	68	1	69
Middlebury	69	0	69

Women's Basketball

School	Win	Loss	Pct.	Streak
Bates	20	4	.833	L1
Williams	19	4	.826	W12
Trinity	18	5	.783	W4
Colby	18	6	.750	W2
Middlebury	**17**	**7**	**.708**	**L1**
Bowdoin	16	7	.696	L1
Amherst	15	8	.652	W1
Connecticut College	13	10	.565	W2
Hamilton	10	14	.417	W2
Tufts	9	13	.409	L1
Wesleyan	1	20	.047	L17

Men's Hockey

School	W	L	T	Pct	Goals Scored	Goals Against	Streak
Middlebury	**18**	**3**	**2**	**.826**	**135**	**58**	**T1**
Hamilton	19	5	1	.780	127	63	W6
Colby	16	7	1	.688	138	78	W6
Williams	16	8	1	.660	97	68	L1
Amherst	14	10	1	.580	109	88	L1
Bowdoin	14	11	0	.560	109	83	W2
Trinity	11	13	0	.458	91	96	L1
Tufts	8	13	2	.391	66	97	W1
Connecticut College	8	14	0	.364	74	86	L5
Wesleyan	3	21	0	.125	94	68	L1

Women's Hockey Season Statistics

20-6-0 OVERALL (17-0-0 ECAC ALLIANCE)

			OVERALL								*ECAC EAST*			*CAREER*		
NO	NAME	GP	G	A	P	PP	SH	GW	P	PM	G	A	P	G	A	P
5	Jennifer Hefner	24	24	29	53	5	0	4	6	12	19	28	47	91	125	216
2	Sylvia Ryan	25	26	22	48	5	2	2	8	16	25	19	44	first-year		
9	Whitney Parks	25	13	21	34	5	0	3	11	22	7	18	25	89	84	173
25	Christa McDougall	22	16	16	32	0	1	4	7	14	15	15	30	first-year		
11	Catherine Pullins	24	11	19	30	5	0	5	6	12	11	12	23	first-year		
28	Leanne MacDonald	26	9	18	27	2	0	1	2	4	8	14	22	first-year		
17	Janice O'Neil	26	6	6	12	0	0	1	4	8	5	5	10	33	26	59
14	Sara Vintiadis	25	7	4	11	3	1	1	2	4	7	4	11	18	31	49
19	Laine Catlin	26	5	7	11	0	0	0	2	4	5	6	11	9	13	22
24	Suzanne Chepren	26	3	8	11	1	0	0	1	2	3	8	11	6	22	28
27	Kelly Hase	26	5	4	9	0	0	0	0	0	5	4	9	first-year		
16	Katie Oates	26	5	2	7	0	0	0	4	8	5	2	7	9	6	15
7	Megan Maloney	26	3	4	7	0	0	0	1	2	3	4	7	3	8	11
4	Stephanie Hill	18	3	4	7	0	0	0	1	2	3	4	7	7	17	24
23	Sarah Cotton	25	5	2	7	1	0	0	6	12	5	2	7	14	8	22
20	Rebecca Sama	23	1	5	6	0	0	0	1	2	1	5	6	1	11	12
21	Sarah Hall	26	4	2	6	0	0	0	3	6	4	2	6	first-year		
12	Caiti Higgins	23	4	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	5	5	4	9
15	Vanessa Hynes	16	2	2	4	1	0	0	0	0	2	2	4	3	7	10
10	Libby Zug	9	1	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	5	2	7
Middlebury Totals		26	153	178	331	28	4	20	65	130	138	158	296	X	X	X
Opponents Totals		26	45	54	99	5	5	6	85	170	12	14	26	X	X	X

GOAL TENDING

										CAREER					
NO	NAME	GMS	MIN	GA	GAA	SVS	SV%	SO	EN	REC	MIN	GA	GAA	SVS	SV%	SO
30	Beth Denoncourt	10	485	14	1.73	130	.903	6	0	7-2	X	X	X	X	X	X
	ECAC Alliance	5	260	1	0.23	34	.971	4	0	5-0						
29	Crystal Springer	13	630	22	2.10	203	.902	4	0	9-4	X	X	X	X	X	X
	ECAC Alliance	8	340	5	0.88	68	.932	3	0	8-0						
1	Kristen Hackmann	13	430	9	1.26	78	.897	1	0	4-0	862	16	1.11	84	.840	5
	ECAC Alliance	12	420	6	0.86	71	.922	1	0	4-0	career record: 10-0					
Middlebury Totals		**26**	**1545**	**153**	**5.94**	**908**	**.856**	**3**	**0**	**6-20**						
ECAC Alliance		**17**	**1020**	**12**	**0.71**	**173**	**.935**	**8**	**0**	**17-0**						
Opponents Totals		**26**	**1545**	**153**	**5.94**	**908**	**.856**	**3**	**0**	**6-20**						
ECAC Alliance		**17**	**1020**	**138**	**8.12**	**696**	**.835**	**0**	**0**	**0-17**						

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	OT	TOTALS
Middlebury	54	55	44	0	153
Opponents	12	18	15	0	45

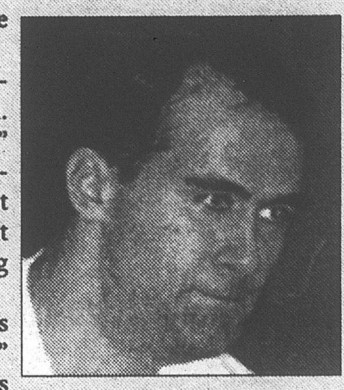
AVG. BY PERIOD	1	2	3	OT	AVG.
Middlebury	2.1	2.1	1.7	0.0	5.9
Opponents	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.0	1.7

Captain's Corner
Indoor track

By Erin Dempsey and Matt Burwell

Although the indoor track season is over, we, the "pseudo-captains" are now taking the opportunity to fill you in on what you might have missed.

This year's women's team ruled. Our lovely women Panthers took no prisoners in their total annihilation of their competition. The women were under siege all season by certain hard-to-kill track powerhouses who were out for justice. But our ladies, who were marked for death, proved to be above the law.

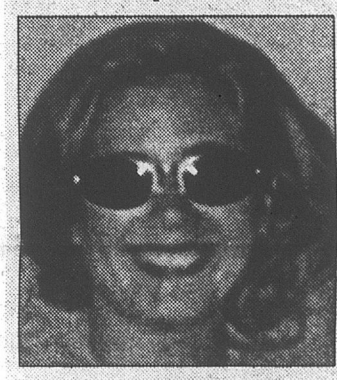


Matt Burwell '98

A strong contingent of first-years led the way to a stellar season. Despite hurdler Anna "Whatever" Tiven's serious health considerations, she shined like the brightest of stars on a clear summer night with her school-record-breaking performances.

A fellow record-shatterer was Michelle "The Needham Rocket" Young, who stunned track fans with her speedy performances in the 55 meters. The dynamic duo of Cindy "Ice Capades" Withington and Erin "Warm-up laps" Parker soared to new altitudes of ecstasy in the high jump. Owing to her serious health considerations, track fans will have to wait until outdoor track to witness the jumping phenomenon that is Alina "Secret Weapon" Wojnar.

In the running events, the Panther women had outstanding success that bodes well for future endeavors. Duxbury native Sarah "Coppertone" Vickers vanquished many of her opponents in the sprints. Annah "Silent but deadly" Heitkamp enjoyed similar success in the fearsome 400 meters. In the 800 meters, Lindsay "Crazy Canuck" Simpson showed the world what she was made of. Janeen "Zoomer" Hetzler made a promising debut in the 1,500 meters, even without the security provided by her teddy bear. Laura "Man Killer" Yost rounded out the a very solid first-year distance team.



Erin Dempsey '98

Enough about the rookies, on to the seasoned veterans. Michelle "Wahoo" Anastasio '97 continued her unending quest to become the premier distance runner in New England.

She was joined by the famous Katy "Davis Pocket Rocket" Masselam '98 who cruised to many a victory in the 1,500 meters. Now cooking collard greens in Chile, Masselam's strength and cheerful demeanor will be sorely missed this spring season. Her partner in crime, North Wussleboro's own Jess "Learner's Permit" Blake '99 is infamous for her overindulgence in sugar and Windex. She is even better known for her mental toughness that makes her one of our favorites. Fellow distance runner Angenie "Harold Miner" McClearey '99 had a strong showing in the 1,500 meters.

Amy "I wish I could dance like Kim and Erin" Olson '99 was the lone upperclassman in the 400 meters, but managed to represent with style. Anne "OFF" Metrailler '99, back from a death-defying tour of Turkish prisons, pulled out a great season despite serious health considerations. In preparation for the heptathalon, Maureen "Calling Doctor Love" Nowlan '99 achieved strong performances in both the shot put and the weight throw. Throwing Jedi Master Anne Marie Oberg '98 had an excellent season in the throwing events, breaking a school record and almost qualifying for nationals.

And last, and probably least, Erin "Hungry" Dempsey '98 had a phatt debut in the heptathalon but promises to do better in the spring.

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Spring sports preview:
Baseball, page 21
Women's lacrosse, page 21

The Campus Sports

March 5, 1997

Winter Sports

Women's hockey vs. Bowdoin	10-0
Women's hoops vs. Trinity	62-64
Men's hoops vs. Trinity	84-91

Women's basketball prepares for post-season

The Panthers, ranked number four in the ECAC tournament, will face Westfield State

Anne McDonough
Staff Writer

Victory was so close for the women's basketball team this past Saturday, eluding them by a mere two points.

The Panthers faced Trinity College at Connecticut on March 1, prepared to play a tough game. "It was a good game," said Assistant Coach Sarah Martin. "Both teams played well and played hard."

She attributed the Trinity win to their good size, big forwards, and aggressive guards, while pointing out Trinity's seventh-place ranking in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) pool.

"We definitely had moments of greatness," said Coach Jen Fulcher.

Unfortunately, the moments of greatness did not convert into a victory for the Panthers. They did not hit most of the threes they attempted, and they were not very successful at the line.

First-year phenom guard Dawn Trowbridge played an excellent game, racking up 10 points and five rebounds in only 17 minutes of playing time.

Trowbridge, who was sidelined with a stress fracture for part of the season, will be a force to be reckoned with in the upcoming games and next year's season.

Co-captain Kristin Manix '97 was the leading scorer with 13 points, while Lauren Brown '98 led with six rebounds.

Chrissie Peterson '99 racked up 11 points, including a three-pointer made in the last five seconds of the game. "We made some great things happen, and had some great steals," said coach Raunecker.

Unfortunately these moments did not convert into a victory for the Panthers. They did not hit most of the threes attempted, and were not very successful on the line.

They scored 31 points each half, which was not enough to hold off Trinity, and were out-rebounded by 1. The final score was 64-62, Trinity. "It was an exciting game," said coach Fulcher, "but it would have been great to have won.

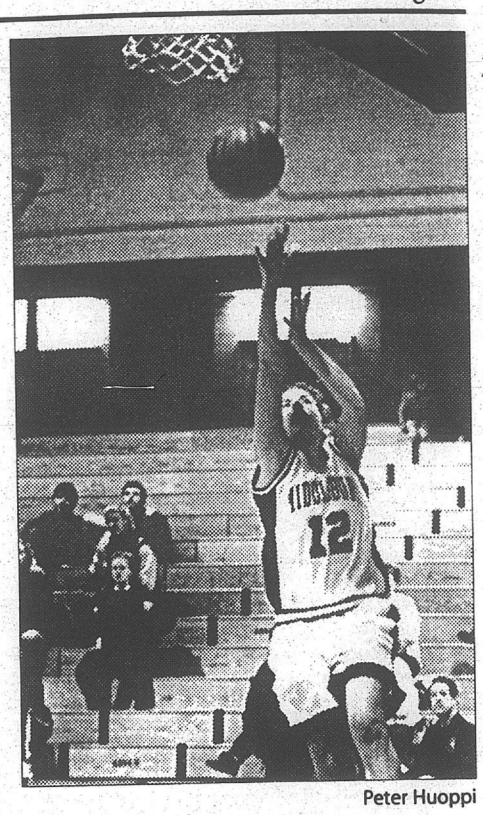
Tonight the Panthers begin their post-season play against the number-five seed, Westfield State, at home in Pepin Gym.

The Panthers are currently ranked number four in the tournament, and hope to dominate Westfield.

"They're very good, with a great tradition," said Coach Fulcher, a tradition which includes post-season play the past six seasons and appearances in the NCAA tournament the past two years.

"They know how to win," said Coach Martin, "and they'll bring us a great game, but we'll be on our home court and prepared to win."

Game time is 7 p.m. in Pepin Gym.



Peter Huoppi

Lauren Brown '98 soars to the hoop in Middlebury's last home game last week.

Mark Moynier

Sylvia Ryan '00 (#2) finds the wide-open net to score one of the endless stream of Middlebury goals against hapless Bowdoin in Sunday's East Coast Athletic Conference Alliance Championship game. Middlebury won 10-0.

Women's hockey repeat as Alliance champs

This year's squad had a great season, with a 21-6 record, which gives it the honor of being the only Middlebury women's hockey team to ever win over 20 games in a season.

By Megan Maloney
Staff Writer

The Panther women's ice hockey team concluded its season with two amazing games this past weekend in the East Coast Athletic Conference (ECAC) Alliance Championship tournament. Bowdoin College, Rochester Institute of Technology, University of Maine-Orono, and Middlebury College all took part in this second annual tournament.

Middlebury opened the weekend with a win over the Maine Polar Bears 10-1. Maine came into the game with a record of 10-5-2 compared to Middlebury's impressive 19-6 record. Sarah Cotton '99 initiated the first of many goals in the first period on passes from Whitney Parks '97 and Janice O'Neil '99 — at 2:37.

Only two minutes later, Sue "Chep" Chepren '99 made a pass from the corner to Catherine Pullins '00, who put the biscuit in the basket while on a power play. Middlebury did not let up this scoring frenzy, for less than five minutes later Christa McDougall '00 boosted the first-period score to 3-0 on a two-on-one play with Sylvia Ryan '00. Middlebury goalie Crystal Springer '00 saved five shots to Maine's 17.

Coming into the second period as fired up as they were in the first, Middlebury blew the competition away by scoring four more goals. Scorers in the second period included Jennifer Hefner '97, Ryan (with two), and McDougall.

However, Maine managed to let one goal slide by Springer, eliminating Middlebury's shut out. At the end of the second period, Middlebury had 22 shots, and Maine had one.

Two minutes into the third, Hefner scored a power-play goal on a pass from Parks. Pullins repeated her earlier play, slamming the puck in from the blue line past the Maine goalie. The double-digit mark was attained by Vanessa Hynes '98 as she tipped the puck in on a play with less than three seconds left in the game, knotting the final at 10-1. Kristin Hackman '99 minded the net for the last period blocking 10 shots while Maine saved 19.

(see Women's hockey, page 22)

Men swim to third at New England meet

By Marisa Budwick
Staff Writer

Shaven and tapered. If one is familiar with swimming lingo, one knows that when these two words are used in the same sentence, a big swim meet is about to take place.

The meet was the New England Championships. The place was Williams College. One might have noticed the shaven heads of the men before they departed for Williams, but when race time came on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, every inch of hair was shaven off of the bodies of the Panther men.

It was well worth it, for the men finished the New England Championships on Sunday in third place out of 26 teams. The only teams ahead of the Panther men were swimming powerhouses Williams and Amherst.

The third place finish at New England's is a big step up from the team's fifth place ranking last year. Coach Mary Ellen Claffey, last year's New England Division III coach of the year, is to be commended for such a performance. The men's third place showing was the highest finish Middlebury has ever seen.

The relays came up big, demonstrating the depth of the team. The 400-freestyle relay, composed of sophomores J.P. Gowdy, Adam Sobek, and Erich Osterberg, and first-year Ian Doherty, finished in second place with a time of 3 minutes, 7.07 seconds.

The 200-freestyle relay, composed of Gowdy, Sobek, Osterberg, and first-year Dave Shomaker finished in third place with a time of 1:25.25. Gowdy went on to swim in both the 400 and 200 medley relays with teammates Doherty, senior Mike McCollum, and first-year Matt Fiorentino, placing second in the 400, and fourth in the 200.

Again, in his fifth relay of the meet, Gowdy, along with sophomore Mike Larsen, Shomaker and Doherty, led the team to a second-place finish in the 800-free relay.

Along with his finishes in five relays, Gowdy was a three-time New England champion in the 100, 200, and 400 individual medleys. Gowdy also set a meet and pool record in the 400 individual medley (IM), with a time of 4:01.33.

Also placing in the individual medleys were John Beeson '97 (17th in the 400 IM,

(see Men's swimming, page 21)